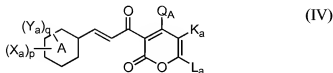


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Withdrawn) A I type collagen gene transcription suppressing composition, which comprises a 2H-pyran-2-one compound represented by the formula (IV):



[wherein

I. A represents a benzene ring or a pyridine ring;

II. In $(X_A)_p$, X_A is a substituent on a carbon atom, and represents a halogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, or a nitro group, a C1-C10 alkoxy group, or a RB-group (R represents a C1-C10 haloalkyl group, and B represents an oxy group or a thio group), p represents 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 and, when p is 2 or more, X_A 's are the same or different;

III. In $(Y_A)_q$, Y_A is a substituent on a carbon atom, and represents a substituent of the following X_1 group or Y_1 group, q represents 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, when q is 2 or more, Y_A 's are the same or different and, when q is 2 or more, the adjacent two same or different Y_A 's constitute a Z_1 group, and may be fused with an A ring;

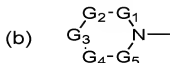
(1) a X_1 group:

a M_A -group [M_A represents a R_b -group (R_b represents a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom), a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxyl group, a R_c - B_A - R_d -group (R_c represents a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, B_A represents an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group, and R_d represents a single bond or a C1-C10 alkylene group), a HOR_d -group (R_d is as defined above), a R_e -CO- R_d -group (R_e represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, and R_d is as defined above), a R_e -CO-O- R_d -group (R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_e O-CO- R_d -group (R_e and R_d are as defined above), a HO-CO-CH=CH-group, a R_eR_e' N- R_d -group (R_e and R_e' are the same or different, R_e is as defined above, R_e' has the same meaning as that of R_e , and R_d is as defined above), a R_e -CO-NR $_e'$ - R_d -group (R_e , R_e'

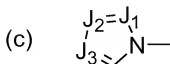
and R_d are as defined above), a $R_bO-CO-N(R_c)-R_d$ -group (R_b , R_c and R_d are as defined above), a $R_cR_c'N-CO-R_d$ -group (R_c , R_c' and R_d are as defined above), a $R_cR_c'N-CO-NR_c''-R_d$ -group (R_c , R_c' and R_c'' are the same or different, R_c and R_c' are as defined above, R_c'' has the same meaning as that of R_c , and R_d is as defined above), a $R_cR_c'N-C(=NR_c''')-NR_c''''-R_d$ -group (R_c , R_c' , R_c'' and R_c''' are the same or different, R_c , R_c' and R_c'' are as defined above, R_c''' has the same meaning as that of R_c , and R_d is as defined above), a $R_b-SO_2-NR_c-R_d$ -group (R_b , R_c and R_d are as defined above), a $R_cR_c'N-SO_2-R_d$ -group (R_c , R_c' and R_d are as defined above), a C2-C10 alkenyl group or a C2-C10 alkynyl group], provided that when A represents a benzene ring, a X_a -group (X_a is as defined above) is excluded;

(2) a Y_1 group:

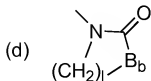
a M_b-R_d -group [M_b represents a M_c -group (M_c represents a M_d-R_d' -group (M_d represents a phenyl group optionally substituted with a M_a -group (M_a is as defined above), or a pyridyl group optionally substituted with a M_a -group (M_a is as defined above) or a naphthyl group optionally substituted with a M_a -group (M_a is as defined above), or



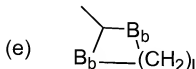
a (b)-group {in (b), G_1 , G_2 , G_4 and G_5 represent a methylene group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a single bond and may be substituted with a methyl group, or a methine group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a double bond and may be substituted with a methyl group, and G_3 represents a single bond, or a double bond, or a C1-C10 alkylene group optionally substituted with a methyl group, an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a sulfonyl group or a $-NR_1$ -group (R_1 represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group, or a C2-C10 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom or a R_2-B_1 -group (R_2 represents a C1-C10 alkyl group, a C-C10 alkenyl group or a C3-C10 alkynyl group, and B_1 represents an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group), or a C3-C10 alkenyl group, or a C3-C10 alkynyl group}, or a C2-C10 alkenylene group optionally substituted with a methyl group, an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a sulfonyl group or a $-NR_1$ -group (R_1 is as defined above)},



a (c)-group (in (c), J₁, J₂ and J₃ are the same or different, and represent a methine group optionally substituted with a methyl group, or a nitrogen atom),



a (d)-group (l is 2, 3 or 4, and B_b represents an oxy group, or a thio group), or



an (e)-group (l and B_b are as defined above), R_d' is the same as or different from R_d, and has the same meaning as that of R_d}, a M_c-B_a-group (M_c and B_a are as defined above), a M_c-CO-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_c-CO-O-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_cO-CO-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_cR_eN-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_c-CO-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cO-CO-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-CO-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-CO-NR_e'-group (M_c, R_e and R_e' are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-C(=NR_e')-NR_e'-group (M_c, R_e, R_e' and R_e' are as defined above), a M_c-SO₂-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above) or a M_cR_eN-SO₂-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), and R_d is as defined above];

(3) a Z₁ group:

a -N=C(Y_a)-Y_a'-group (Y_a represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, and Y_a' represents an oxy group, or a thio group, or an imino group optionally substituted with a C1-C10 alkyl group), a -Y_b-Y_b'-Y_b'-group (Y_b and Y_b' are the same or different, and represent a methylene group, or an oxy group, or a thio group, or a sulfinyl group, or an imino group optionally substituted with a C1-C10 alkyl group, and Y_b' represents a C1-C4alkylene group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C1-C4 alkylene group optionally having an oxo group) or a -Y_c-O-Y_c'-O-group (Y_c and Y_c' are the same or different, and represent a C1-C10 alkylene group);

IV. Q_A represents a hydroxyl group, a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above), an A₉-B₆-B_c-group [A₉ represents a substituent of the following A₇ group or A₈ group, B₆ represents a carbonyl group or a thiocarbonyl group, B_c represents an oxy group or a -N((O)_mR₁)-group (m represents 0 or 1, and R₁ is as defined above), provided that when A₉ is a hydrogen atom, B_c is not a sulfonyl group], an A₇'-SO₂-B_c-group (A₇' represents a substituent of the following A₇' group, and B_c is

as defined above), an A₈-SO₂-B_c-group (A₈ represents a substituent of the following A₈ group, and B_c is as defined above, provided that A₈ is not a hydrogen atom), a R₁R₁'N-SO₂-B_c-group (R₁ is as defined above, R₁' is the same as or different from R₁, and has the same meaning as that of R₁, and B_c is as defined above), a (b)-SO₂-B_c-group ((b) and B_c are as defined above), an A₉'-B_c-group (A₉' represents a substituent of the following A₇' group or A₈' group, and B_c is as defined above), a D₅-R₄-B_c-group (D₅ represents a substituent of the following D₅ group, R₄ represents a C1-C10 alkylene group, and B_c is as defined above), M_c-B₃-B_c-group (B₃ represents a carbonyl group, a thiocarbonyl group or a sulfonyl group and M_c and B_c are as defined above) or a M_c-B_c-group (M_c and B_c are as defined above);

(1) an A₇ group:

a C2-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C2-C10 alkynyl group, a C3-C10 haloalkynyl group, a R₂.B₁-R₄-group (R₂ and B₁ are as defined above, and R₄ is as defined above), a D₄-R₄-group (D₄ represents a substituent of the following D₄ group, and R₄ is as defined above), a D₅-R₄-group (D₅ represents a substituent of the following D₅ group, R₄ is as defined above), a D₁-R₄-group {D₁ represents a substituent of the following D₁ group, and R₄ is as defined above}, a (b)-R₄-group {(b) is as defined above, and R₄ is as defined above}, a (c)-R₄-group ((c) is as defined above, and R₄ is as defined above), a D₂-R₄-group {D₂ represents a substituent of the following D₂ group, and R₄ is as defined above}, a D₃-R₄-group {D₃ represents a substituent of the following D₃ group, and R₄ is as defined above}, an A₄-SO₂-R₄-group {A₄ represents a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above), a (c)-group ((c) is as defined above) or a R₁R₁'N-group (R₁ and R₁' are as defined above), and R₄ is as defined above} or an A₂-CO-R₄-group (A₂ represents a substituent of the following A₂ group, and R₄ is as defined above);

(2) an A₈ group: a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom;

(3) an A₇' group: a C3-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a R₂-B₁-R₄'-group (R₂ and B₁ are as defined above, and R₄' represents a C₂-C10 alkylene group), a D₄-R₄'-group (D₄ and R₄' are as defined above), a D₁-R₄'-group (D₁ and R₄' are as defined above), a (b)-R₄'-group ((b) and R₄' are as defined above), a (c)-R₄'-group ((c) and R₄' are as defined above), a D₂-R₄-group (D₂ and R₄ are as defined above), a D₃-R₄'-group (D₃ and R₄' are as defined above) or an A₂-CO-R₄-group (A₂ and R₄ are as defined above);

(4) an A₈' group: a C1-C10 alkyl group or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group;

(5) an A₇' group: a C2-C10 alkenyl group, a C3-C10 alkenyl group substituted with a halogen atom, a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a R₂-B₁-R₄'-group (R₂, B₁ and R₄' are as defined above), a D₄-R₄'-group (D₄ and R₄' are as defined above), a D₅-R₄-group (D₅ and R₄ are as defined above), a D₁-R₄'-group (D₁ and R₄' are as defined above), (b)-R₄'-group ((b) and R₄' are as defined above), a (c)-R₄'-group ((c) and R₄' are as defined above), a D₂-R₄-group (D₂ and R₄ are as defined above), a NO₂-R₄-group (R₄ is as defined above) or an A₂-CO-R₄-group (A₂ and R₄ are as defined above);

(i) a D₄ group: a hydroxyl group or an A₁-O-group [A₁ represents a R₃-(CHR₀)_m-(B₂-B₃)_{m'}-group {R₃ represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a R₂-B₁-group (R₂ and B₁ are as defined above), or a C2-C10 alkenyl group, or a C2-C10 alkynyl group, R₀ represents a hydrogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group, m is as defined above, B₂ represents a single bond, an oxy group, a thio group or a -N(O)_nR₁'-group (R₁' is as defined above, and n represents 0 or 1, B₃ is as defined above, m' represents 0 or 1 and, when B₃ is a sulfonyl group, m is 0, and R₃ is not a hydrogen atom)}];

(ii) a D₅ group: an O=C(R₃)-group (R₃ is as defined above), an A₁-(O)_n-N=C(R₃)-group (A₁, n and R₃ are as defined above), a R₁-B₀-CO-R₄-(O)_n-N=C(R₃)-group [R₁, R₄, n and R₃ are as defined above, and B₀ represents an oxy group, a thio group or a -N((O)_mR₁')-group (R₁' and m are as defined above)], a D₂-R₄-(O)_n-N=C(R₃)-group (D₂, R₄, n and R₃ are as defined above) or a R₁A₁N-N=C(R₃)-group (R₁, A₁ and R₃ are as defined above);

(iii) a D₁ group: a (R₁-(O)_k)-A₁N-(O)_k-group (R₁ and A₁ are as defined above, and k and k' are the same or different, and represent 0 or 1);

(iv) a D₂ group: a cyano group, a R₁R₁'NC(=N-(O)_n-A)-group (R₁, R₁', n and N₁ are as defined above), an A₁N=C(-OR₂)-group (A₁ and R₂ are as defined above) or a NH₂-CS-group.

(v) a D₃ group: a nitro group or a R₁OSO₂-group (R₁ is as defined above);

(vi) an A₂ group:

1) an A₃-B₄-group

[A₃ represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group, or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group, or a C2-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a R_a-(R₄)_m-group (R_a represents a phenyl group, a pyridyl group, a furyl group or a thienyl group, optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group, a C1-C10 alkoxy group or a nitro group, and R₄ and m are as defined above), or a C1-C10 alkyl group substituted with a (b)-R₄-group ((b) and R₄ are as defined above), a (c)-R₄-

group ((c) and R₄ are as defined above), a R₂-B₁-R₄-group (R₂, B₁ and R₄ are as defined above), a D₄-R₄-group (D₄ and R₄ are as defined above), a D₅-group (D₅ is as defined above), a D₁-R₄-group (D₁ and R₄ are as defined above), a D₂-group (D₂ is as defined above), a D₃-R₄-group (D₃ and R₄ are as defined above) or an A₄-SO₂-R₄-group {A₄ is as defined above, and R₄ is as defined above};

B₄ represents an oxy group, a thio group or a -N((O)_mR₁)-group (R₁ and m are as defined above), provided that when B₄ is a thio group, A₃ is not a hydrogen atom];

2) a R₁-B₄-CO-R₄-B₄'-group (R₁, B₄ and R₄ are as defined above, B₄' is the same as or different from B₄, and has the same meaning as that of B₄, provided that when B₄ is a thio group, R₂ is not a hydrogen atom) or a D₂-R₄-B₄-group (D₂, R₄ and B₄ are as defined above);

3) a R₂-SO₂-NR₁-group (R₂ is as defined above, provided that a hydrogen atom is excluded, and R₁ is as defined above),

4) a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above);

5) a (c)-group ((c) is as defined above); or

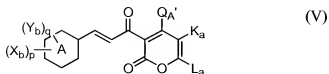
6) a R₁A₁N-NR₁'-group (R₁, R₁ and R₁' are as defined above);

V. K_a represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom or a C1-C10 alkyl group, L_a represents a hydrogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group or a M_b-group (M_b is as defined above), or K_a and L_a may form a C1-C10 alkylene group, provided that when K_a is a hydrogen atom, L_a is a methyl group and an A ring is a benzene ring, p is 2, 3 or 4 in the case that q is 0; and

the "as defined above" in the same symbol between a plurality of substituents indicates that the plurality of substituents independently represent the same meaning as that described above and, between the plurality of substituents, a selection range of selected substituents is the same, while the selected substituents may be the same or different as far as they are selected in a range];

and an inert carrier;

5. (Withdrawn) A 2H-pyran-2-one compound represented by the formula (V):



[wherein

I. A represents a benzene ring or a pyridine ring;

II. In $(X_b)_p$, X_b is a substituent on a carbon atom, and represents a halogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, or a nitro group, or a C2-C10 alkoxy group, or a RB-group (R represents a C1-C10 haloalkyl group, and B represents an oxy group or a thio group), p represents 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 and, when p is 2 or more, X_b 's are the same or different;

III. In $(Y_b)_q$, Y_b is a substituent on a carbon atom, and represents a substituent of the following X_2 group or Y_2 group, q represents 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, when q is 2 or more, Y_b 's are the same or different and, when q is 2 or more, the adjacent two same or different Y_b 's constitutes a group of a Z_2 group, and may be fused with an A ring;

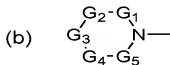
(1) a X_2 group:

a M_a -group [M_a represents a R_b -group (R_b represents a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom), a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, a R_c - B_a - R_d -group (R_c represents a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, B_a represents an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group, and R_d represents a single bond or a C1-C10 alkylene group), a HOR_d -group (R_d is as defined above), a R_e -CO- R_d -group (R_e represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, and R_d is as defined above), a R_e -CO-O- R_d -group (R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_e O-CO- R_d -group (R_e and R_d are as defined above), a HO-CO-CH=CH-group, a R_eR_e' N- R_d -group (R_e and R_e' are the same or different, R_e is as defined above, R_e' has the same meaning as that of R_e , and R_d is as defined above), a R_e -CO-NR $_e'$ - R_d -group (R_e , R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a R_bO -CO-N(R_e)- R_d -group (R_b , R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_eR_e' N-CO- R_d -group (R_e , R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a R_eR_e' N-CO-NR $_d''$ - R_d -group (R_e , R_e' and R_e'' are the same or different, R_e has the same meaning as that of R_e' , R_e'' has the same meaning as that of R_e , and R_d is as defined above), a R_eR_e' N-C(=NR $_e''$)-NR $_e'''$ - R_d -group (R_e , R_e' , R_e'' and

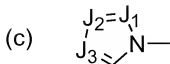
R_c''' are the same or different, R_c, R_c' and R_c'' are as defined above, R_c''' has the same meaning as that of R_c, and R_d is as defined above), a R_b-SO₂-NR_c-R_d-group (R_b, R_c and R_d are as defined above), a R_c R_c'N-SO₂-R_d -group (R_c, R_c' and R_d are as defined above), a C2-C10 alkenyl group or a C2-C10 alkynyl group], provided that, when A represents a benzene ring, then, a halogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, or a nitro group, or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, or a RB-group (R and B are as described above) is excluded;

(2) a Y₂ group:

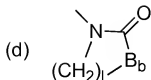
a M_b-R_d-group [M_b represents a M_c-group {M_c represents a M_d-R_d'-group {M_d represents a phenyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or a pyridyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or a naphthyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above) or



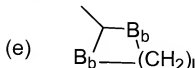
a (b)-group {in (b), G₁, G₂, G₄ and G₅ represent a methylene group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a single bond and may be substituted with a methyl group, or a methine group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a double bond and may be substituted with a methyl group, and G₃ represents a single bond, or a double bond, or a C1-C10 alkylene group optionally substituted with a methyl group, an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a sulfonyl group, or a -NR₁-group {R₁ represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group, or a C2-C10 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom or a R₂-B₁-group (R₂ represents a C1-C10 alkyl group, a C3-C10 alkenyl group or a C3-C10 alkynyl group, and B₁ represents an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group), or a C3-C10 alkenyl group, or a C3-C10 alkynyl group}, or a C2-C10 alkenylene group optionally substituted with a methyl group, an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a sulfonyl group or a NR₁- group (R₁ is as defined above)},



a (c)-group (in(c), J₁, J₂ and J₃ are the same or different, and represent a methine group optionally substituted with a methyl group, or a nitrogen atom),



a (d) group (l is 2, 3 or 4, and B_b represents an oxy group or a thio group) or



an (e)-group (l and B_b are as defined above), R_d' is the same as or different from R_d, and has the same meaning as that of R_d}}, a M_c-B_a-group (M_c and B_a are as defined above), a M_c-CO-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_c-CO-O-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_cO-CO-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_cR_eN-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_c-CO-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cO-CO-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-CO-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-CO-NR_e'-group (M_c, R_e and R_d' are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-C(=NR_e')-NR_e'-group (M_c, R_e, R_e' and R_e' are as defined above), a M_c-SO₂-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above) or M_cR_eN-SO₂-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), and R_d is as defined above];

(3) a Z₂ group:

a -N=C(Y_a)-Y_a'-group (Y_a represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, and Y_a' represents an oxy group, or a thio group, or an imino group optionally substituted C1-C10 alkyl group), a -Y_b-Y_b'-Y_b'-group (Y_b and Y_b' are the same or different, and represent a methylene group, or an oxy group, or a thio group, or a sulfinyl group, or an imino group optionally substituted with a C1-C10 alkyl group, and Y_b' represents a C1-C4 alkylene group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C1-C4 alkylene group optionally having an oxo group) or a -Y_c-O-Y_c'-O-group (Y_c and Y_c' are the same or different, and represent a C1-C10 alkylene group);

III. Q_A' represents a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above), an A₉-B₆-B_c-group [A₉ represents a substituent of the following A₇ group or A₈ group, B₆ represents a carbonyl group or a thiocarbonyl group, and B_c represents an oxy group or a -N((O)_mR₁)-group (m represents 0 or 1, and R₁ is as defined above), provided that when A₉ is a hydrogen atom, then B_c is not a sulfonyl group], an A₇'-SO₂-B_c-group (A₇' represents a substituent of the following A₇' group, and B_c is as defined above), an A₈-SO₂-B_c-group (A₈ represents a substituent of the following A₈ group,

and B_c is as defined above, provided that A₈ is not a hydrogen atom), a R₁R₁'N-SO₂-B_c-group (R₁ is as defined above, R₁' is the same as or different from R₁, and has the same meaning as that of R₁ and B_c is as defined above), a (b)-SO₂-B_c-group ((b) and B_c are as defined above), an A₉'-B_c-group (A₉' represents a substituent of the following A₇' group or A₈' group, and B_c is as defined above), a D₅-R₄-B_c-group (D₅ represents a substituent of the following D₅ group, R₄ represents a C1-C10 alkylene group, and B_c is as defined above), a M_c-B₃-B_c-group (B₃ represents a carbonyl group, a thiocarbonyl group or a sulfonyl group, and M_c and B_c are as defined above) or a M_c-B_c-group (M_c and B_c are as defined above);

(1) an A₇ group:

a C2-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C2-C10 alkynyl group, a C3-C10 haloalkynyl group, a R₂-B₁-R₄-group (R₂ and B₁ are as defined above, and R₄ is as defined above), a D₄-R₄-group (D₄ represents a substituent of the following D₄ group, and R₄ is as defined above), a D₅-R₄-group (D₅ represents a substituent of the following D₅ group, and R₄ is as defined above), a D₁-R₄-group {D₁ represents a substituent of the following D₁ group, and R₄ is as defined above}, a (b)-R₄-group ((b) is as defined above, and R₄ is as defined above), a (c)-R₄-group ((c) is as defined above, and R₄ is as defined above), a D₂-R₄-group {D₂ represents a substituent of the following D₂ group, and R₄ is as defined above}, a D₃-R₄-group {D₃ represents a substituent of the following D₃ group, and R₄ is as defined above}, an A₄-SO₂-R₄-group {A₄ represents a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above), a (c)-group ((c) is as defined above) or a R₁R₁'N-group (R₁ and R₁' are as defined above), and R₄ is as defined above} or an A₂-CO-R₄-group (A₂ represents a substituent of the following A₂ group, and R₄ is as defined above);

(2) an A₈ group: a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom;

(3) an A₇' group: a C3-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C₂-B₁-R₄'-group (C₂ and B₁ are as defined above, and R₄' represents a C2-C10 alkylene group), a D₄-R₄'-group (D₄ and R₄' are as defined above), a D₁-R₄'-group (D₁ and R₄' are as defined above), a (b)-R₄'-group ((b) and R₄' are as defined above), a (c)-R₄'-group ((c) and R₄' are as defined above), a D₂-R₄-group (D₂ and R₄ are as defined above), a D₃-R₄'-group (D₃ and R₄' are as defined above) or an A₂-CO-R₄-group (A₂ and R₄ are as defined above);

(4) an A₈-group: a C1-C10 alkyl group or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group;

(5) an A₇'-group: a C2-C10 alkenyl group, a C3-C10 alkenyl group substituted with a halogen atom, a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a R₂-B₁-R₄'-group (R₂, B₁ and R₄' are as defined above), a D₄-R₄'-group (D₄ and R₄' are as defined above), a D₅-R₄-group (D₅ and R₄ are as defined above), a D₁-R₄'-group (D₁ and R₄' are as defined above), a (b)-R₄'-group ((b) and R₄' are as defined above), a (c)-R₄'-group ((c) and R₄' are as defined above), a D₂-R₄-group (D₂ and R₄ are as defined above), a NO₂-R₄-group (R₄ is as defined above) or an A₂-CO-R₄-group (A₂ and R₄ are as defined above);

(i) a D₄ group: a hydroxyl group or an A₁-O-group [A₁ represents a R₃-(CHR₀)_m-(B₂-B₃)_m'-group {R₃ represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a R₂-B₁-group (R₂ and B₁ are as defined above), or a C2-C10 alkenyl group, or a C2-C10 alkynyl group, R₀ represents a hydrogen atom, C1-C10 alkyl group or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group, m is as defined above, B₂ represents a single bond, an oxy group, a thio group or a -N((O)_nR₁')-group (R₁' is as defined above, and n represents 0 or 1), B₃ is as defined above, and m' represents 0 or 1 and, when B₃ is a sulfonyl group, m is 0, and R₃ is not a hydrogen atom}];

(ii) a D₅ group: O=C(R₃) group (R₃ is as defined above), an A₁-(O)_n-N=C(R₃)-group (A₁, n and R₃ are as defined above), an R₁-B₀-CO-R₄-(O)_n-N=C(R₃)-group [R₁, R₄, n and R₃ are as defined above, and B₀ represents an oxy group, a thio group or a -N((O)_mR₁')-group (R₁' and m are as defined above)], a D₂-R₄-(O)_n-N=C(R₃)-group (D₂, R₄, n and R₃ are as defined above) or a R₁A₁N=N=C(R₃)group (R₁, A₁ and R₃ are as defined above);

(iii) a D₁ group: a (R₁-(O)_k)-A₁N-(O)_k'-group (R₁ and A₁ are as defined above, and k and k' are the same or different, and represent 0 or 1);

(iv) a D₂ group: a cyano group, a R₁R₁'NC(=N-(O)_n-A₁-group (R₁, R₁', n and A₁ are as defined above), an A₁N=C(-OR₂)-group (A₁ and R₂ are as defined above) or a NH₂-CS-group.

(v) a D₃ group: a nitro group or a R₁OSO₂-group (R₁ is as defined above);

(vi) an A₂ group:

1) an A₃-B₄-group

[A₃ represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group, or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group, or a C2-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a R_a-(R₄)_m-group (R_a represents a phenyl group, a pyridyl group, a furyl group or a thienyl group, optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group, a C1-C10 alkoxy group or a nitro group, and R₄ and m are as defined above), or a C1-C10 alkyl group substituted with a (b)-R₄-group ((b) and R₄ are as defined above), a (c)-R₄-

group ((c) and R₄ are as defined above), a R₂-B₁-R₄-group (R₂, B₁ and R₄ are as defined above), a D₄-R₄-group (D₄ and R₄ are as defined above), a D₅-group (D₅ is as defined above), a D₁-R₄-group (D₁ and R₄ are as defined above), a D₂-group (D₂ is as defined above), a D₃-R₄-group (D₃ and R₄ are as defined above) or an A₄-SO₂-R₄-group {A₄ is as defined above, and R₄ is as defined above},

B₄ represents an oxy group, a thio group or a -N((O)_mR₁)-group (R₁ and m are as defined above), provided that when B₄ is a thio group, A₃ is not a hydrogen atom];

2) a R₁-B₄-CO-R₄-B₄'-group (R₁, B₄ and R₄ are as defined above, B₄' is the same as or different from B₄, and has the same meaning as that of B₄ provided that when B₄ is a thio group, R₂ is not a hydrogen atom) or a D₂-R₄-B₄-group (D₂, R₄ and B₄ are as defined above);

3) a R₂-SO₂-NR₁-group (R₂ is as defined above provided that a hydrogen atom is excluded, and R₁ is as defined above),

4) a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above);

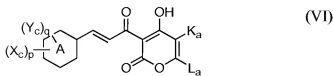
5) a (c)-group ((c) is as defined above); or

6) a R₁A₁N-NR₁'-group (R₁, A₁ and R₁' are as defined above);

IV. K_a represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom or a C1-C10 alkyl group, L_a represents a hydrogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group or a M_b-group (M_b is as defined above), or K_a and L_a may form a C1-C10 alkylene group, provided that when an A ring is a benzene ring, p is 2, 3 or 4 in the case that q is 0; and

the "as defined above" in the same symbol between a plurality of substituents indicates that the plurality of substituents independently represent the same meaning as that described above and, between the plurality of substituents, a selection range of selected substituents is the same, while the selected substituents may be the same or different as far as they are selected in the range];

6. (Withdrawn) A 2H-pyran-2-one compound represented by the formula (VI):



[wherein

I. A represents a benzene ring or a pyridine ring;

II. In $(X_c)_p$, X_c is a substituent on a carbon atom, and represents a hydroxyl group, or a halogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, or a C2-C10 alkenyl group, or a $R'-S(O)_l$ -group (R' represents a C1-C10 alkyl group, and l represents 0, 1 or 2), or a cyano group, or a C1-C10 alkoxycarbonyl group, or an aminocarbonyl group, or a $(R')_2N$ -group (R' is as defined above), or a $R'CO-NH$ -group (R' is as defined above), or a nitro group, or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, or a RB -group (R represents a C1-C10 haloalkyl group, and B represents an oxy group or a thio group), p represents 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 and, when p is 2 or more, X_c 's are the same or different;

III. In $(Y_c)_q$, Y_c is a substituent on a carbon atom, and represents a substituent of the following X_3 group or Y_3 group, q represents 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, when q is 2 or more, Y_c 's are the same or different and, when q is 2 or more, the adjacent two same or different Y_c 's constitute a group of a Z_3 group, and may be fused with an A ring;

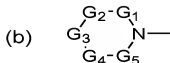
(1) a X_3 group:

a M_a -group [M_a represents a R_b -group (R_b represents a C1-C10 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom), a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, a R_c-B_a - R_d -group (R_c represents a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, B_a represents an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group, and R_d represents a single bond or a C1-C10 alkylene group), a HOR_d -group (R_d is as defined above), a R_c-CO-R_d -group (R_c represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, and R_d is as defined above), a $R_c-CO-O-R_d$ -group (R_c and R_d are as defined above), a $R_cO-CO-R_d$ -group (R_c and R_d are as defined above), a $HO-CO-CH=CH$ -group, a $R_cR_eN-R_d$ -group (R_c and R_e ' are the same or different, R_e is as defined above, R_e ' has the same meaning as that of R_e , and R_d is as defined above), a $R_c-CO-NR_e'-R_d$ -group (R_c , R_e ' and R_d are as defined above), a $R_bO-CO-N(R_c)-R_d$ -group (R_b , R_c and R_d are as defined above), a $R_cR_eN-CO-R_d$ -group (R_c , R_e ' and R_d are as defined above), a $R_cR_eN-CO-NR_e''-R_d$ -group (R_c , R_e ' and R_e'' are the same or different, R_c and R_e ' are as defined above, R_e'' has the same meaning as that of R_e , and R_d is as defined above), a $R_cR_eN-C(=NR_e''')-NR_e'''-R_d$ -group (R_c , R_e ', R_e'' and R_e''' are the same or different, R_c , R_e ' and R_e'' are as defined above, R_e''' has the same meaning as that of R_e , and R_d is as defined above), a $R_b-SO_2-NR_e-R_d$ -group (R_b , R_e and R_d are as defined above), a $R_cR_eN-SO_2-R_d$ -group (R_c , R_e ' and R_d are as defined above), a C2-C10 alkenyl group or a C2-C10 alkynyl group], provided that when A represents a benzene ring, then a hydroxy

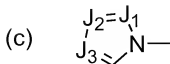
group, or a halogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, or a C2-C10 alkenyl group, or a R'-S(O)_l-group (R' represents a C1-C10 alkyl group, and l represents 0, 1 or 2), or a cyano group, or a C1-C10 alkoxy carbonyl group, or an aminocarbonyl group, or a (R')₂N-group (R' is as defined above), or a R'CO-NH-group (R' is as defined above), or a nitro group or a C1-C10 alkoxy group is excluded;

(2) a Y₃ group:

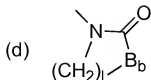
a M_b-R_d-group [M_b represents a M_c-group {M_c represents a M_d-R_d'-group {M_d represents a phenyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or a pyridyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or a naphthyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or



a (b)-group {in (b), G₁, G₂, G₄ and G₅ represent a methylene group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a single bond, and may be substituted with a methyl group, or a methine group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a double bond, and may be substituted with a methyl group, and G₃ represents a single bond, or a double bond, or a C1-C10 alkylene group optionally substituted with a methyl group, an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a sulfonyl group or a -NR₁-group {R₁ represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group, or a C2-C10 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom or a R₂-B₁-group (R₂ represents a C1-C10 alkyl group, a C3-C10 alkenyl group or a C3-C10 alkynyl group, and B₁ represents an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group) or a C3-C10 alkenyl group, or a C3-C10 alkynyl group}, or a C2-C10 alkenylene group optionally substituted with a methyl group, an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a sulfonyl group or a -NR₁-group (R₁ is as defined above)},

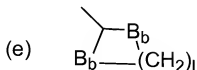


a (c)-group (in (c), J₁, J₂ and J₃ are the same or different, and represent a methine group optionally substituted with a methyl group, or a nitrogen atom),



a (d)-group (l is 2, 3 or 4, and B_b represents an oxy group or a thio group)

or



an (c)-group (l and B_b are as defined above), R_d' is the same as or different from R_d, and has the same meaning as that of R_d}, a M_c-B_a-group (M_c and B_a are as defined above), a M_c-CO-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_c-CO-O-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_cO-CO-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_cR_eN-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_c-CO-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cO-CO-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-CO-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-CO-NR_e'-group (M_c, R_e and R_e' are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-C(=NR_e')-NR_e'-group (M_c, R_e, R_e' and R_e' are as defined above), a M_c-SO₂-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above) or a M_cR_eN-SO₂-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), and R_d is as defined above], provided that when P is 0, then a morpholino group, or a phenyl group, or a phenoxy group substituted with a trifluoromethyl group, or a phenoxy group substituted with single or plural halogen atoms is excluded;

(3) a Z₃ group:

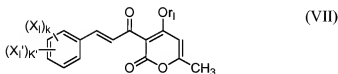
a -N=C(Y_a)-Y_a'-group (Y_a represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, and Y_a' represents an oxy group, or a thio group, or an imino group optionally substituted with a C1-C10 alkyl group), a -Y_b-Y_b'-Y_b'-group (Y_b and Y_b' are the same or different, and represent a methylene group, or an oxy group, or a thio group, or a sulfinyl group, or an imino group optionally substituted with a C1-C10 alkyl group, and Y_b' represents a C1-C4 alkylene group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C1-C4 alkylene group optionally having an oxo group) or a -Y_c-O-Y_c'-O-group (Y_c and Y_c' are the same or different, and represent a C1-C10 alkylene group),

provided that when p is 0, then Y_c is not fused with an A ring to form a benzo[1,3]dioxol ring;

IV. K_a represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom or a C1-C10 alkyl group, L_a represents a hydrogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group or a M_b -group (M_b is as defined above), or K_a and L_a may form a C1-C10 alkyne group, provided that when an A ring is a benzene ring, then q is not 0 and, when an A ring is a benzene ring or a pyridine ring, then p and q are not 0 at the same time, in either case; and

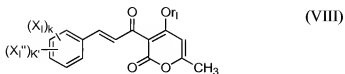
the “as defined above” in the same symbol between a plurality of substituents indicates that the plurality of substituents independently represent the same meaning as that described above, and between the plurality of substituents, a selection range of selected substituents is the same, while the selected range may be the same or different as far as they are selected in the range];

7. (Withdrawn) A I type collagen gene transcription suppressing composition, which comprises a 2H-pyran-2-one compound represented by the formula (VII):



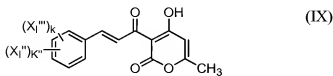
[wherein X_1 represents a C2-C4 alkenyl group, a C2-C4 alkynyl group, a R_1 -S(O) $_l$ -group (R_1 represents a C1-C4 alkyl group, and l represents an integer of 0 to 2), a cyano group, a carboxy group, a C1-C4 alkoxy carbonyl group, a $(R_1)_2$ N-group (R_1 is as defined above), a R_1 -CO-NH-group (R_1 is as defined above), a R_1 O-CO-NH-group (R_1 is as defined above), a R_1 NH-CO-NH-group (R_1 is as defined above) or a $(R_1')_2$ N-CO-group (R_1' represents a hydrogen atom or a C1-C4 alkyl group), X_1' represents a halogen atom, or a C1-C4 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a C1-C4 alkoxy group, or a nitro group, or a C1-C4 alkoxy group, or a RB-group (B represents an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom, and R represents a C1-C4 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom), k represents 0 or 1, k' represents an integer of 0 to 4, when k is 0, k' is an integer of 2 to 4 and, when k' is 2 to 4, X_1 's may be different, and R_1 is a C1-C4 alkyl group, a C2-C4 alkenyl group or a C2-C4 alkynyl group], and an inert carrier;

8. (Withdrawn) A 2H-pyran-2-one compound represented by the formula (VIII):



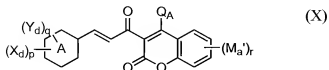
[wherein X_1 represents a C2-C4 alkenyl group, a C2-C4 alkynyl group, a $R_1S(O)_l$ -group (R_1 represents a C1-C4 alkyl group, and l represents an integer of 0 to 2), a cyano group, a carboxy group, a C1-C4 alkoxy carbonyl group, a $(R_1)_2N$ -group (R_1 is as defined above), a R_1CO-NH -group (R_1 is as defined above), a $R_1O-CO-NH$ -group (R_1 is as defined above), a $R_1NH-CO-NH$ -group (R_1 is as defined above) or $(R_1')_2N-CO$ -group (R_1' represents a hydrogen atom or a C1-C4 alkyl group), X_1'' represents a halogen atom, or a C1-C4 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a C1-C4 alkoxy group, or a nitro group, or a C2-C4 alkoxy group, or a RB-group (B represents an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom, and R represents a C1-C4 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom), k represents 0 or 1, k' represents an integer of 0 to 4, when k is 0, k' is an integer of 2 to 4 and, when k' is 2 to 4, X_1'' s may be different, and R_1 is a C1-C4 alkyl group, a C2-C4 alkenyl group or a C2-C4 alkynyl group];

9. (Withdrawn) A 2H-pyran-2-one compound represented by the formula (IX):



[wherein X_1''' represents a C2-C4 alkenyl group, a C2-C4 alkynyl group, a carboxy group, a C2-C4 alkoxy carbonyl group or a $(R_{II})_2N$ -group (R_{II} represents a C2-C4 alkyl group), X_1'' represents a halogen atom, or a C1-C4 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a C1-C4 alkoxy group, or a nitro group, or a C2-C4 alkoxy group, or a RB-group (B represents an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom, and R represents a C1-C4 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom), k represents 0 or 1, k'' represents an integer of 0 to 2, when k is 0, k'' is 2 and, when k'' is 2, X_1'' s are different];

10. (Withdrawn) A 1 type collagen gene transcription suppressing composition, which comprises a 2H-1-benzopyran-2-one compound represented by the formula (X):



[wherein

I. A represents a benzene ring or a pyridine ring;

II. In $(X_d)_p$, X_d is a substituent on a carbon atom, and represents a methoxy group or an ethoxy group, p represents 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 and, when p is 2 or more, X_d 's are the same or different;

III. In $(Y_d)_q$, Y_d is a substituent on a carbon atom, and represents a substituent of the following X_4 group or Y_4 group, q represents 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, when q is 2 or more, Y_d 's are the same or different and, q is 2 or more, the adjacent two same or different Y_d 's constitute a group of a Z_4 group, and may be fused with an A ring;

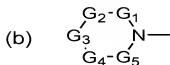
(1) a X_4 group:

a M_a -group [M_a represents a R_b -group (R_b represents a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom), a halogen, atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxyl group, a R_c - B_a - R_d -group (R_c represents a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, B_a represents an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group, and R_d represents a single bond or a C1-C10 alkylene group), a HOR_d -group (R_d is as defined above), a R_c -CO- R_d -group (R_c represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, and R_d is as defined above), a R_c -CO-O- R_d -group (R_c and R_d are as defined above), a R_c O-CO- R_d -group (R_c and R_d are as defined above), a HO-CO-CH=CH-group, a R_cR_c' - R_d -group (R_c and R_c' are the same or different, R_c is as defined above, R_c' has the same meaning as that of R_c , and R_d is as defined above), a R_c -CO-NR $_c'$ - R_d -group (R_c , R_c' and R_d are as defined above), a R_b O-CO-N(R_c)- R_d -group (R_b , R_c and R_d are as defined above), a R_cR_c' N-CO- R_d -group (R_c , R_c' and R_d are as defined above), a R_cR_c'' N-CO-NR $_c''$ - R_d -group (R_c , R_c' and R_c'' are the same or different, R_c and R_c' are as defined above, R_c'' has the same meaning as that of R_c , and R_d is as defined above), a R_cR_c' N-C(=NR $_c''$)-NR $_c'''$ - R_d -group (R_c , R_c' , R_c'' and R_c''' are the same or different, R_c , R_c' and R_c'' are as defined above, R_c''' has the same meaning as that of R_c , and R_d is as defined above), a R_b -SO $_2$ -NR $_c$ - R_d -group (R_b , R_c and R_d are as defined

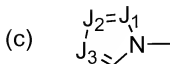
above), a $R_cR_{c'}N-SO_2-R_d$ -group (R_c , $R_{c'}$ and R_d are as defined above), a C2-C10 alkenyl group or a C2-C10 alkynyl group], provided that when A represents a benzene ring, then a methoxy group and an ethoxy group are excluded;

(2) a Y_4 group:

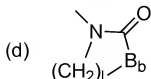
a M_b-R_d -group [M_b represents a M_c -group (M_c represents a M_d-R_d' -group (M_d represents a phenyl group optionally substituted with a M_a -group (M_a is as defined above), or a pyridyl group optionally substituted with a M_a -group (M_a is as defined above), or a naphthyl group optionally substituted with a M_a -group (M_a is as defined above), or



a (b)-group {in (b), G_1 , G_2 , G_4 and G_5 represent a methylene group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a single bond, and may be substituted with a methyl group, or a methine group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a double bond, and may be substituted with a methyl group, and G_3 represents a single bond, or a double bond, or a C1-C10 alkylene group optionally substituted with a methyl group, an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a sulfonyl group or a $-NR_1$ -group (R_1 represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group, or a C2-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a R_2-B_1 -group (R_2 represents a C1-C10 alkyl group, a C3-C10 alkenyl group or C3-C10 alkynyl group, and B_1 represents an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group), or a C3-C10 alkenyl group, or a C3-C10 alkynyl group} or a C2-C10 alkenylene group optionally substituted with a methyl group, an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a sulfonyl group or a $-NR_1$ -group (R_1 is as defined above)},

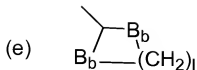


a (c)-group (in (c), J_1 , J_2 and J_3 are the same or different, and represent a methine group optionally substituted with a methyl group, or a nitrogen atom),



a (d)-group (l is 2, 3 or 4, and B_b represents an oxy group or a thio group)

or



an (c)-group (I and B_b are as defined above), R_d' is the same as or different from R_d, and has the same meaning as that of R_d}, a M_c-B_a-group (M_c and B_a are as defined above), a M_c-CO-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_c-CO-O-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_cO-CO-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_cR_eN-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_c-CO-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cO-CO-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-CO-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-CO-NR_e'-group (M_c, R_e and R_e' are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-C(=NR_e')-NR_e'-group (M_c, R_e, R_e' and R_e' are as defined above), a M_c-SO₂-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above) or a M_cR_eN-SO₂-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), and R_d is as defined above];

(3) a Z₄ group:

a -N=C(Y_a)-Y_a'-group (Y_a represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, and Y_a' represents an oxy group, or a thio group, or an imino group optionally substituted with a C1-C10 alkyl group), a -Y_b-Y_b'-Y_b'-group (Y_b and Y_b' are the same or different, a methylene group, or an oxy group, or a thio group, or a sulfinyl group, or an imino group optionally substituted with a C1-C10 alkyl group, and Y_b' represents a C1-C4 alkylene group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C1-C4 alkylene group optionally having an oxo group) or a -Y_c-O-Y_c'-O-group (Y_c and Y_c' are the same or different, and represent a C1-C10 alkylene group);

IV. Q_A represents a hydroxyl group, a (b) group ((b) is as defined above), an A₉-B₆-B_c-group [A₉ represents a substituent of the following A₇ group or A₈ group, B₆ represents a carbonyl group or a thiocarbonyl group, and B_c represents an oxy group or a -N((O)_mR₁)-group (m represents 0 or 1, and R₁ is as defined above), provided that when A₉ is a hydrogen atom, then B_c is not a sulfonyl group], an A₇'-SO₂-B_c-group (A₇' represents a substituent of the following A₇' group, and B_c is as defined above), an A₈-SO₂-B_c-group (A₈ represents a substituent of the following A₈ group, and B_c is as defined above, provided that A₈ is not a hydrogen atom), a R₁R₁'N-SO₂-B_c-group (R₁ is as defined above, R₁' is the same as or different from R₁, and has the same meaning as that of R₁, and B_c is as defined above), a (b)-SO₂-B_c-group ((b) and B_c are as defined above),

an A₉'-B_c-group (A₉' represents a substituent of the following A₇' group or A₈' group, and B_c is as defined above), a D₅-R₄-B_c-group (D₅ represents a substituent of the following D₅ group, R₄ represents a C1-C10 alkylene group, and B_c is as defined above), a M_c-B₃-B_c-group (B₃ represents a carbonyl group, a thiocarbonyl group or a sulfonyl group, and M_c and B_c are as defined above) or a M_c-B_c-group (M_c and B_c are as defined above);

(1) an A₇ group:

a C2-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C2-C10 alkynyl group, a C3-C10 haloalkynyl group, a R₂-B₁-R₄-group (R₂ and B₁ are as defined above, and R₄ is as defined above), a D₄-R₄-group (D₄ represents a substituent of the following D₄ group, and R₄ is as defined above), a D₅-R₄-group (D₅ represents a substituent of the following D₅ group, and R₄ is as defined above), a D₁-R₄-group {D₁ represents a substituent of the following D₁ group, and R₄ is as defined above}, a (b)-R₄-group ((b) is as defined above, and R₄ is as defined above), a (c)-R₄-group ((c) is as defined above, and R₄ is as defined above), a D₂-R₄-group {D₂ represents a substituent of the following D₂ group, and R₄ is as defined above}, a D₃-R₄-group {D₃ represents a substituent of the following D₃ group, and R₄ is as defined above}, an A₄-SO₂-R₄-group {A₄ represents a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above), a (c)-group ((c) is as defined above) or a R₁R₁'N-group (R₁ and R₁' are as defined above), and R₄ is as defined above} or an A₂-CO-R₄-group (A₂ represents a substituent of the following A₂ group, and R₄ is as defined above);

(2) an A₈ group: a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom;

(3) an A₇' group: a C3-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a R₂-B₁-R₄'-group (R₂ and B₁ are as defined above, and R₄' represents a C2-C4 alkylene group), a D₄-R₄'-group (D₄ and R₄' are as defined above), a D₁-R₄'-group (D₁ and R₄' are as defined above), a (b)-R₄'-group ((b) and R₄' are as defined above), a (c)-R₄'-group ((c) and R₄' are as defined above), a D₂-R₄-group (D₂ and R₄ are as defined above), a D₃-R₄'-group (D₃ and R₄' are as defined above) or an A₂-CO-R₄-group (A₂ and R₄ are as defined above);

(4) an A₈' group: a C1-C10 alkyl group or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group;

(5) an A₇'' group: a C2-C10 alkenyl group, a C3-C10 alkenyl group substituted with a halogen atom, a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a R₂-B₁-R₄'-group (R₂, B₁ and R₄' are as defined above), a D₄-R₄'-group (D₄ and R₄' are as defined above), a D₅-R₄-group (D₅ and R₄ are as defined above), a D₁-R₄'-group (D₁ and R₄' are as defined above), a

(b)-R₄'-group ((b) and R₄' are as defined above), a (c)-R₄'-group ((c) and R₄' are as defined above), a D₂-R₄-group (D₂ and R₄ are as defined above), a NO₂-R₄-group (R₄ is as defined above) or an A₂-CO-R₄-group (A₂ and R₄ are as defined above);

(i) a D₄ group: a hydroxy group or an A₁-O-group [A₁ represents a R₃-(CHR₀)_m-(B₂-B₃)_m'-group {R₃ represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a R₂-B₁-group (R₂ and B₁ are as defined above), or a C2-C10 alkenyl group, or C2-C10 alkynyl group, R₀ represents a hydrogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group, m is as defined above, B₂ represents a single bond, an oxy group, a thio group or a -N((O)_mR₁')-group (R₁' is as defined above, and n represents 0 or 1), B₃ is as defined above, m' represents 0 or 1 and, when B₃ is a sulfonyl group, then m is 0, and R₃ is not a hydrogen atom}];

(ii) a D₅ group: an O=C(R₃)-group (R₃ is as defined above), an A₁-(O)_n-N=C(R₃)-group (A₁, n and R₃ are as defined above), a R₁-B₀-CO-R₄-(O)_n-N=C(R₃)-group [R₁, R₄, n and R₃ are as defined above, and B₀ represents an oxy group, a thio group or a -N((O)_mR₁')-group (R₁' and m are as defined above)], a D₂-R₄-(O)_n-N=C(R₃)-group (D₂, R₄, n and R₃ are as defined above) or a R₁A₁N=N=C(R₃)-group (R₁, A₁ and R₃ are as defined above);

(iii) a D₁ group: a (R₁-(O)_k)-A₁N-(O)_k'-group (R₁ and A₁ are as defined above, and k and k' are the same or different, and represent 0 or 1);

(iv) a D₂ group: a cyano group, a R₁R₁'NC(=N-(O)_n-A₁)-group (R₁, R₁', n and A₁ are as defined above), an A₁N=C(-OR₂)-group (A₁ and R₂ are as defined above) or a NH₂-CS-group;

(v) a D₃ group: a nitro group or a R₁OSO₂-group (R₁ is as defined above);

(vi) an A₂ group:

1) an A₃-B₄-group

[A₃ represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group, or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group, or a C2-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a R_a-(R₄)_m-group (R_a represents a phenyl group, a pyridinyl group, a furyl group or a thienyl group, optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group, a C1-C10 alkoxy group or a nitro group, and R₄ and m are as defined above), or a C1-C10 alkyl group substituted with a (b)-R₄-group ((b) and R₄ are as defined above), a (c)-R₄-group ((c) and R₄ are as defined above), a R₂-B₁-R₄-group (R₂, B₁ and R₄ are as defined above), a D₄-R₄-group (D₄ and R₄ are as defined above), a D₅-group (D₅ is as defined above), a D₁-R₄-group (D₁ and R₄ are as defined above), a D₂-group (D₂ is as defined above), a

D₃-R₄-group (D₃ and R₄ are as defined above) or an A₄-SO₂-R₄-group {A₄ is as defined above, and R₄ is as defined above},

B₄ represents an oxy group, a thio group or a -N((O)_mR₁)-group (R₁ and m are as defined above), provided that when B₄ is a thio group, then A₃ is not a hydrogen atom];

2) a R₁-B₄-CO-R₄-B₄'-group (R₁, B₄ and R₄ are as defined above, B₄' is the same as or different from B₄, and has the same meaning as that of B₄, provided that when B₄ is a thio group, then R₂ is not a hydrogen atom) or a D₂-R₄-B₄-group (D₂, R₄ and B₄ are as defined above);

3) a R₂-SO₂-NR₁-group (R₂ is as defined above, provided that a hydrogen atom is excluded, and R₁ is as defined above),

4) a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above);

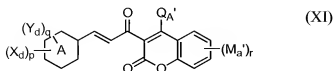
5) a (c)-group ((c) is as defined above) or

6) a R₁A₁N-NR₁'-group (R₁, A₁ and R₁' are as defined above);

V. M_a' is the same as or different from M_a, and has the same meaning as that of M_a, and r represents 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4, provided that when an A ring is a benzene ring, in case that q and r are 0, then p is 2, 2, 3 or 4; and

the "as defined above" in the same symbol between a plurality of substituent indicates that the plurality of the substituents independently represent the same meaning as that of described above and, between the plurality of substituents, a selection range of the selected substituents is the same, while the selected substituents may be the same or different as far as they are selected in the range];
 and an inert carrier;

11. (Withdrawn) A 2H-1-benzopyran-2-one compound represented by the formula (XI):



[wherein

I. A represents a benzene ring or a pyridine ring;

II. In $(X_d)_p$, X_d is a substituent on a carbon atom, and represents a methoxy group or an ethoxy group, p represents 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 and, when p is 2 or more, X_d 's are the same or different;

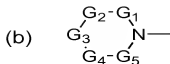
III. In $(Y_d)_q$, Y_d is a substituent on a carbon atom, and represents a substituent of the following X_4 group or Y_4 group, q represents 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, when q is 2 or more, Y_d 's are the same or different and, when q is 2 or more, the adjacent two same or different Y_d 's constitute a group of a Z_4 group, and may be fused with an A ring;

(1) a X_4 group:

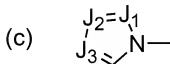
a M_a -group [M_a represents a R_b -group (R_b represents a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom), a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, a R_c - B_a - R_d -group (R_c represents a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, B_a represents an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group, and R_d represents a single bond or a C1-C10 alkylene group), a HOR_d -group (R_d is as defined above), a R_e -CO- R_d -group (R_e represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, and R_d is as defined above), a R_e -CO-O- R_d -group (R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_e O-CO- R_d -group (R_e and R_d are as defined above), a HO-CO-CH=CH-group, a $R_eR_{e'}$ N- R_d -group (R_e and $R_{e'}$ are the same or different, R_e is as defined above, $R_{e'}$ has the same meaning as that of R_e , and R_d is as defined above), a R_e -CO-NR $_{e'}$ - R_d -group (R_e , $R_{e'}$ and R_d are as defined above), a R_b O-CO-N(R_e)- R_d -group (R_b , R_e and R_d are as defined above), a $R_eR_{e'}$ N-CO- R_d -group (R_e , $R_{e'}$ and R_d are as defined above), a $R_eR_{e''}$ N-CO-NR $_{e''}$ - R_d -group (R_e , $R_{e'}$ and $R_{e''}$ are the same or different, R_e and $R_{e''}$ are as defined above, $R_{e'}$ has the same meaning as that of R_e , and R_d is as defined above), a $R_eR_{e''}$ N-C(=NR $_{e''}$)-NR $_{e'''}$ - R_d -group (R_e , $R_{e'}$, $R_{e''}$ and $R_{e'''}$ are the same or different, R_e , $R_{e'}$ and $R_{e''}$ are as defined above, $R_{e'''}$ has the same meaning as that of R_e , and R_d is as defined above), a R_b -SO $_2$ -NR $_{e'}$ - R_d -group (R_b , R_e and R_d are as defined above), a $R_eR_{e'}$ N-SO $_2$ - R_d -group (R_e , $R_{e'}$ and R_d are as defined above), a C2-C10 alkenyl group or a C2-C10 alkynyl group], provided that when A represents a benzene ring, then a methoxy group and an ethoxy group are excluded;

(2) Y_4 group:

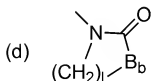
a M_b - R_d -group [M_b represents a M_c -group (M_c represents a M_d - R_d '-group (M_d represents a phenyl group optionally substituted with a M_a -group (M_a is as defined above), a pyridyl group optionally substituted with a M_a -group (M_a is as defined above), or a naphthyl group optionally substituted with a M_a -group (M_a is as defined above), or



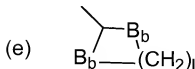
a (b)-group {in (b), G₁, G₂, G₄ and G₅ represent a methylene group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a single bond, and may be substituted with a methyl group, or a methine group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a double bond, and may be substituted with a methyl group, and G₃ represents a single bond, or a double bond, or a C1-C10 alkylene group optionally substituted with a methyl group, an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a sulfonyl group or a -NR₁-group {R₁ represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group, or a C2-C10 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom or a R₂-B₁-group (R₂ represents a C1-C10 alkyl group, a C3-C10 alkenyl group or a C3-C10 alkynyl group, and B₁ represents an oxy group, a thio group, sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group), or a C3-C10 alkenyl group, or a C3-C10 alkynyl group}, or a C2-C10 alkenylene group optionally substituted with a methyl group, an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a sulfonyl group or a -NR₁-group (R₁ is as defined above)},



a (c)-group (in (c), J₁, J₂, and J₃ are the same or different and, represent a methine group optionally substituted with a methyl group, or a nitrogen atom),



a (d)-group (l is 2, 3 or 4, and B_b represents an oxy group or a thio group) or



an (e)-group (l and B_b are as defined above), R_d' is the same as or different from R_d, and has the same meaning as that of R_d}, a M_c-B_a-group (M_c and B_a are as defined above), a M_c-CO-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_c-CO-O-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_cO-CO-group (M_c is as

defined above), a M_cR_eN -group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a $M_c\text{-CO-NR}_e$ -group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a $M_cO\text{-CO-NR}_e$ -group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a $M_cR_eN\text{-CO}$ -group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a $M_cR_eN\text{-CO-NR}_e'$ -group (M_c , R_e and R_e' are as defined above), a $M_cR_eN\text{-C(=NR}_e')\text{-NR}_e''$ -group (M_c , R_e , R_e' and R_e'' are as defined above), a $M_c\text{-SO}_2\text{-NR}_e$ -group (M_c and R_e are as defined above) or a $M_cR_eN\text{-SO}_2$ -group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), and R_d is as defined above];

(3) a Z_4 group:

a $\text{-N=C(Y}_a\text{)-Y}_a'$ -group (Y_a represents a hydrogen atom, or C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, and Y_a' represents an oxy group, or a thio group, or an imino group optionally substituted with a C1-C10 alkyl group), a $\text{-Y}_b\text{-Y}_b'\text{-Y}_b''$ -group (Y_b and Y_b'' are the same or different, and represent a methylene group, or an oxy group, or a thio group, or a sulfinyl group, or an imino group optionally substituted with a C1-C10 alkyl group, Y_b' represents a C1-C4 alkylene group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C1-C4 alkylene group optionally having an oxo group) or a $\text{-Y}_c\text{-O-Y}_c'\text{-O}$ -group (Y_c and Y_c' are the same or different, and a C1-C10 alkylene group);

IV. Q_A' represents a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above), an $A_9\text{-B}_6\text{-BC}$ -group [A_9 represents a substituent of the following A_7 group or A_8 group, B_6 represents a carbonyl group or a thiocarbonyl group, B_c represents an oxy group or a $\text{-N}((O)_mR_1)$ -group (m represents 0 or 1, and R_1 is as defined above), provided that when A_9 is a hydrogen atom, then B_c is not a sulfonyl group], an $A_7''\text{-SO}_2\text{-B}_c$ -group (A_7'' represents a substituent of the following A_7'' group, and B_c is as defined above), an $A_8\text{-SO}_2\text{-B}_c$ -group (A_8 represents a substituent of the following A_8 group, and B_c is as defined above, provided that A_8 is not a hydrogen atom), a $R_1R_1'N\text{-SO}_2\text{-B}_c$ -group (R_1 is as defined above, R_1' is the same as or different from R_1 , and has the same meaning as that of R_1 , and B_c is as defined above), a (b)- $\text{SO}_2\text{-B}_c$ -group ((b) and B_c are as defined above), an $A_9'\text{-B}_c$ -group (A_9' represents a substituent of the following A_7' group or A_8' group, and B_c is as defined above), a $D_5\text{-R}_4\text{-B}_c$ -group (D_5 represents a substituent of the following D_5 group, R_4 represents a C1-C10 alkylene group, and B_c is as defined above), a $M_c\text{-B}_3\text{-B}_c$ -group (B_3 represents a carbonyl group, a thiocarbonyl group or a sulfonyl group, and M_c and B_c are as defined above) or a $M_c\text{-B}_c$ -group (M_c and B_c are as defined above);

(1) an A_7 group :

a C2-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C2-C10 alkynyl group, a C3-C10 haloalkynyl group, a $R_2\text{-B}_1\text{-R}_4$ -group (R_2 and B_1 are as defined above, and R_4 is

as defined above), a D₄-R₄-group (D₄ represents a substituent of the following D₄ group, and R₄ is as defined above), a D₅-R₄-group (D₅ represents a substituent of the following D₅ group, and R₄ is as defined above), a D₁-R₄-group {D₁ represents a substituent of the following D₁ group, and R₄ is as defined above}, a (b)-R₄-group ((b) is as defined above, and R₄ is as defined above), a (c)-R₄-group ((c) is as defined above, and R₄ is as defined above), a D₂-R₄-group {D₂ represents a substituent of the following D₂ group, and R₄ is as defined above}, a D₃-R₄-group {D₃ represents a substituent of the following D₃ group, and R₄ is as defined above}, an A₄-SO₂-R₄-group {A₄ represents a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above), a (c)-group ((c) is as defined above) or a R₁R₁'N-group (R₁ and R₁' are as defined above), and R₄ is as defined above} or an A₂-CO-R₄-group (A₂ represents a substituent of the following A₂ group, and R₄ is as defined above);

(2) an A₈ group: a hydrogen atom, or C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom;

(3) an A₇' group: a C3-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a R₂-B₁-R₄'-group (R₂ and B₁ are as defined above, and R₄' represents a C2-C10 alkylene group), a D₄-R₄' group (D₄ and R₄' are as defined above), a D₁-R₄'-group (D₁ and R₄' are as defined above), a (b)-R₄'-group ((b) and R₄' are as defined above), a (c)-R₄'-group ((c) and R₄' are as defined above), a D₂-R₄-group (D₂ and R₄ are as defined above), a D₃-R₄'-group (D₃ and R₄' are as defined above) or an A₂-CO-R₄-group (A₂ and R₄ are as defined above);

(4) an A₉' group: a C1-C10 alkyl group or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group;

(5) an A₇'' group: a C2-C10 alkenyl group, a C3-C10 alkenyl group substituted with a halogen atom, a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a R₂-B₁-R₄'-group (R₂, B₁ and R₄' are as defined above), a D₄-R₄'-group (D₄ and R₄' are as defined above), a D₅-R₄-group (D₅ and R₄ are as defined above), a D₁-R₄'-group (D₁ and R₄' are as defined above), a (b)-R₄'-group ((b) and R₄' are as defined above), a (c)-R₄'-group ((c) and R₄' are as defined above), a D₂-R₄-group (D₂ and R₄ are as defined above), a NO₂-R₄-group (R₄ is as defined above) or an A₂-CO-R₄-group (A₂ and R₄ are as defined above);

(i) a D₄ group: a hydroxy group or an A₁-O-group [A₁ represents a R₃-(CHR₀)_m-(B₂-B₃)_m'-group {R₃ represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a R₂-B₁-group (R₂ and B₁ are as defined above), or a C2-C10 alkenyl group, or a C2-C10 alkynyl group, R₀ represents a hydrogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group or a C2-C10 haloalkyl

group, m is as defined above, B₂ represents a single bond, an oxy group, a thio group or a –N((O)_nR₁')-group (R₁' is as defined above, and n represents 0 or 1), B₃ is as defined above, m' represents 0 or 1 and, when B₃ is a sulfonyl group, then m is 0, and R₃ is not a hydrogen atom];

(ii) a D₅ group: an O=C(R₃)-group (R₃ is as defined above), an A₁-(O)_n-N=C(R₃)-group (A₁, n and R₃ are as defined above), a R₁-B₀-CO-R₄-(O)_n-N=C(R₃)-group [R₁, R₄, n and R₃ are as defined above, and B₀ represents an oxy group, a thio group or a –N((O)_mR₁')-group (R₁' and m are as defined above)], a D₂-R₄-(O)_n-N=C(R₃)-group (D₂, R₄, n and R₃ are as defined above) or a R₁A₁N=N=C(R₃)-group (R₁, A₁ and R₃ are as defined above);

(iii) a D₁ group: a (R)-(O)_kA₁N-(O)_k'-group (R₁ and A₁ are as defined above, and k and k' are the same or different, and represent 0 or 1);

(iv) a D₂ group: a cyano group, a R₁R₁'NC(=N-(O)_n-A₁)-group (R₁, R₁', n and A₁ are as defined above), an A₁N=C-(OR₂)-group (A₁ and R₂ are as defined above) or a NH₂-CS-group;

(v) a D₃ group: a nitro group or a R₁OSO₂-group (R₁ is as defined above);

(vi) an A₂ group:

1) an A₃-B₄-group

[A₃ represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group, or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group, or a C2-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a R_a-(R_a)_m-group (R_a represents a phenyl group, a pyridyl group, a furyl group or a thienyl group, optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group, a C1-C10 alkoxy group or a nitro group, and R_a and m are as defined above), or a C1-C10 alkyl group substituted with a (b)-R₄-group ((b) and R₄ are as defined above), a (c)-R₄-group ((c) and R₄ are as defined above), a R₂-B₁-R₄-group (R₂, B₁ and R₄ are as defined above), a D₄-R₄-group (D₄ and R₄ are as defined above), a D₅-group (D₅ is as defined above), a D₁-R₄-group (D₁ and R₄ are as defined above), a D₂-group (D₂ is as defined above), a D₃-R₄-group (D₃ and R₄ are as defined above) or an A₄-SO₂-R₄-group {A₄ is as defined above, and R₄ is as defined above},

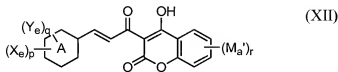
B₄ represents an oxy group, a thio group or a –N((O)_mR₁)-group (R₁ and m are as defined above), provided that when B₄ is a thio group, A₃ is not a hydrogen atom];

2) a R₁-B₄-CO-R₄-B₄'-group (R₁, B₄ and R₄ are as defined above, B₄' is the same as or different from B₄, and has the same meaning as that of B₄, provided that when B₄ is a thio group, R₂ is not a hydrogen atom), or a D₂-R₄-B₄-group (D₂, R₄ and B₄ are as defined above);

- 3) a R_2 -SO₂-NR₁-group (R₂ is as defined above, provided that a hydrogen atom is excluded, and R₁ is as defined above);
- 4) a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above);
- 5) a (c)-group ((c) is as defined above) or
- 6) a R₁A₁N-NR₁'-group (R₁, A₁ and R₁' are as defined above);
- V. M_a' is the same as or different from M_a, and has the same meaning as that of M_a, and r represents 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4, provided that when an A ring is a benzene ring, in case that q is 0, then p is 2, 3 or 4; and

the "as defined above" between a plurality of substituents indicates that the plurality of substituents independently represent the same meaning as that described above and, between the plurality of substituents, a selection range of selected substituents is the same, while the selected substituents may be the same or different as far as they are selected in the range];

12. (Withdrawn) A 2H-1-benzopyran-2-one compound represented by the formula (XII):



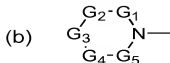
[wherein

- I. A represents a benzene ring or a pyridine ring;
- II. In (X_e)_p, X_e represents a hydroxy group, a halogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group, a R'-S(O)l-group (R' represents a C1-C10 alkyl group, and l represents 0, 1 or 2), a cyano group, a HOCO-CH=CH-group, a (R')₂N-group (R' is as defined above), a R' CO-NH-group (R' is as defined above), a nitro group or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, p represents 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 and, when p is 2 or more, X_e's are the same or different;
- III. In (Y_e)_q, Y_e is a substituent on a carbon atom, and represents a substituent of the following X₅ group or Y₅ group, q represents 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, when q is 2 or more, Y_e's are the same or different and, when q is 2 or more, the adjacent two same or different Y_e's constitute a group of a Z₅ group, and may be fused with an A ring;
- (1) a X₅ group:

a M_a-group [M_a represents a R_b-group (R_b represents a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom), a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxyl group, a R_c-B_a-R_d-group (R_c represents a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, B_a represents an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group, and R_d represents a single bond or a C1-C10 alkylene group), a HOR_d-group (R_d is as defined above), a R_e-CO-R_d-group (R_d represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, and R_d is as defined above), a R_e-CO-O-R_d-group (R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_e-CO-CO-R_d-group (R_e and R_d are as defined above), a HO-CO-CH=CH-group, a R_eR_e'N-R_d-group (R_e and R_e' are the same or different, R_e is as defined above, R_e' has the same meaning as that of R_e, and R_d is as defined above), a R_e-CO-NR_e'-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a R_bO-CO-N(R_e)-R_d-group (R_b, R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-CO-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-CO-NR_e''-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_e'' are the same or different, R_e and R_e' are as defined above, R_e'' has the same meaning as that of R_e, and R_d is as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-C(=NR_e'')-NR_e'''-R_d-group (R_e, R_e', R_e'' and R_e''' are the same or different, R_e, R_e' and R_e'' are as defined above, R_e''' has the same meaning as that of R_e, and R_d is as defined above), a R_b-SO₂-NR_e-R_d-group (R_b, R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_eR_e'N-SO₂-R_d-group (R_e, R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a C2-C10 alkenyl group or a C2-C10 alkynyl group], provided that when A represents a benzene ring, then a X_e-group (X_e is as defined above) is excluded;

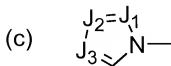
(2) a Y₅ group:

a M_b-R_d-group [M_b represents a M_c-group {M_c represents a M_d-R_d'-group {M_d represents a phenyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or a pyridyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or a naphthyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or

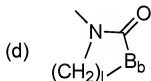


a (b)-group {in (b), G₁, G₂, G₄ and G₅ represent a methylene group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a single bond, and may be substituted with a methyl group, or a methine group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a double bond, and may be substituted with a methyl group, and G₃ represents a single bond, or a double bond, or a C1-C10 alkylene group optionally substituted with a methyl group, an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a

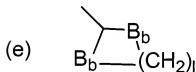
sulfonyl group or a $-NR_1$ -group (R_1 represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group, or a C2-C10 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom or a R_2 - B_1 -group (R_2 represents a C1-C10 alkyl group, a C3-C10 alkenyl group or a C3-C10 alkynyl group, and B_1 represents an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group), or a C3-C10 alkenyl group, or a C3-C10 alkynyl group}, or a C2-C10 alkenylene group optionally substituted with a methyl group, an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a sulfonyl group or a $-NR_1$ -group (R_1 is as defined above)),



a (c)-group (in (c), J_1 , J_2 and J_3 are the same or different, and represent a methine group optionally substituted with a methyl group, or a nitrogen atom),



a (d)-group (l is 2, 3 or 4, and B_b represents an oxy group or a thio group) or



an (c)-group (l and B_b are as defined above), R_d' is the same as or different from R_d , and has the same meaning as that of R_d }, a M_c - B_a -group (M_c and B_a are as defined above), a M_c -CO-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_c -CO-O-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_c O-CO-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_cR_e N-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_c -CO- NR_e -group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_c O-CO- NR_e -group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cR_e N-CO-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cR_e N-CO- NR_e' -group (M_c , R_e and R_e' are as defined above), a M_cR_e N-C($=NR_e'$)- NR_e -group (M_c , R_e , R_e' and R_e'' are as defined above), a M_c -SO₂- NR_e -group (M_c and R_e are as defined above) or a M_cR_e N-SO₂-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), and R_d is as defined above];

(3) a Z_5 group:

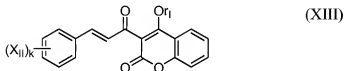
a $-N=C(Y_a)-Y_a'$ -group (Y_a represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, and Y_a' represents an oxy group, or

a thio group, or an imino group optionally substituted with a C1-C10 alkyl group), a $-Y_b-Y_b'-Y_b''$ -group (Y_b and Y_b'' are the same or different, and represent a methylene group, or an oxy group, or a thio group, or a sulfinyl group, or an imino group optionally substituted with a C1-C10 alkyl group, and Y_b' represents a C1-C4 alkylene group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C1-C4 alkylene group optionally having an oxo group) or a $-Y_c-O-Y_c'-O$ -group (Y_c and Y_c' are the same or different, and represent a C1-C10 alkylene group), provided that when p is 0, then Y_c is not fused with an A ring to form a benzo[1,3]dioxol ring;

IV. M_n is the same as or different from M_a , and has the same meaning as that of M_a , and r represents 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4, provided that when an A ring is a benzene ring, then q is not 0; and

the "as defined above" in the same symbol between a plurality of substituents indicates that the plurality of substituents independently represent the same meaning as that described above and, between the plurality of substituents, a selection range of selected substituents is the same, while the selected substituents may be the same or different as far as they are selected in the range];

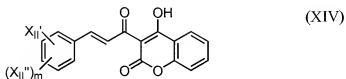
13. (Withdrawn) A 2H-1-benzopyran-2-one compound represented by the formula (XIII):



[wherein X_{II} represents a hydrogen atom, or a hydroxyl group, or a halogen atom, or a C1-C4 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a C1-C4 alkoxy group, or a C2-C4 alkenyl group, or a C2-C4 alkynyl group, or a C3-C4 alkoxy group, or a $R_l-S(O)_l$ -group (R_l represents a C1-C4 alkyl group, and l represents an integer of 0 to 2), or a nitro group, or a cyano group, or a carboxy group, or a C1-C4 alkoxycarbonyl group, or a $(R_l)_2N$ -group (R_l is as defined above), or a R_l-CO-N_l -group (R_l is as defined above), or a $R_lO-CO-NH$ -group (R_l is as defined above), or a $R_lNH-CO-NH$ -group (R_l is as defined above), or a $(R_l')_2N-CO$ -group (R_l' represents a hydrogen atom or a C1-C4 alkyl group), or a RB-group (B represents an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom, and R represents a C1-C4 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom), k represents

an integer of 1 to 4 and, when k is an integer of 2 to 4, X_{II} 's may be different, and r_1 represents a C1-C4 alkyl group, a C2-C4 alkenyl group or a C2-C4 alkynyl group];

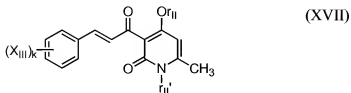
14. (Withdrawn) A 2H-1-benzopyran-2-one compound represented by the formula (XIV):



[wherein X_{II}' represents a C1-C4 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom or a C1-C4 alkoxy group, a C2-C4 alkenyl group, a C2-C4 alkynyl group, a C3-C4 alkoxy group, a R_{II} -S(O)_l-group (R_{II} represents a C2-C4 alkyl group, and l represents an integer of 0 to 2), a cyano group, a carboxy group, a C₁-C4 alkoxycarbonyl group, a (R_{II})₂N-group (R_{II} is as defined above), a R_I -CO-NH-group (R_I represents a C1-C4 alkyl group), a R_I O-CO-NH-group (R_I is as defined above), a R_I NH-CO-NH-group (R_I is as defined above), a (R_I')₂N-CO-group (R_I' represents a hydrogen atom or a C1-C4 alkyl group) or a RB-group (B represents an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom, and R represents a C1-C4 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom), X_{II}'' represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a C1-C4 alkyl group or a C3-C4 alkoxy group, m represents 1 or 2 and, when m is 2, X_{II}'' 's may be different];

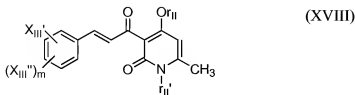
15-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently amended) ~~A I-type collagen gene transcription suppressing~~
 composition, ~~which comprises comprising~~ a 2 (1H)-pyridinone compound represented by the
 formula (XVII):



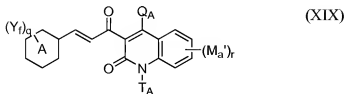
~~[wherein wherein~~ XIII represents a hydrogen atom, or a hydroxy group, or a halogen atom, or a
 C1-C4 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a C1-C4 alkoxy group, or a
 C2-C4 alkenyl group, or a C2-C4 alkynyl group, or a C1-C4 alkoxy group, or a R₁-S(O)_l-group
 (wherein R₁ represents a C1-C4 alkyl group, and l represents an integer of 0 to 2), or a nitro
 group, or a cyano group, or a carboxy group, or a C1-C4 alkoxycarbonyl group, or a (R₁)₂N-
 group (wherein R₁ represents a C1-C4 alkyl group ~~is as defined above~~), or a R₁-CO-NH-group
 (wherein R₁ is as defined above), or a R₁O-CO-NH-group (wherein R₁ is as defined above), or a
 R₁NH-CO-NH-group (wherein R₁ is as defined above), or a (R₁')₂N-CO-group (wherein R₁'
 represents a hydrogen atom or a C1-C4 alkyl group) or a RB-group (wherein B represents an
 oxygen atom or a sulfur atom, and R represents a C1-C4 alkyl group substituted with a halogen
 atom), K represents an integer of 1 to 4, when k is an integer of 2 to 4, X_{III}'s may be different, r_{II}
 and r_{II}' are the same or different, and represent a hydrogen atom or a C1-C4 alkyl ~~group~~group;
 and an inert ~~carrier~~carrier.

18. (Currently amended) A 2(1H)-pyridinone compound represented by the formula (XVIII):



[wherein wherein X_{III}' represents a C2-C4 alkyl group, or a C1-C4 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom or a C1-C4 alkoxy group, or a C2-C4 alkenyl group, or a C2-C4 alkynyl group, or a C2-C4 alkoxy group, or a $R_I-S(O)_I$ -group (wherein R_I represents a C1-C4 alkyl group, and I represents an integer of 0 to 2), or a cyano group, or a carboxy group, or a C1-C4 alkoxycarbonyl group, a $(R_{II})_2N$ -group (wherein R_{II} represents a C2-C4 alkyl group), or a $R_I-CO-NH$ -group (wherein R_I is as defined above), or a $R_I'O-CO-NH$ -group (wherein R_I is as defined above), or a $R_I'NH-CO-NH$ -group (wherein R_I is as defined above), or a $(R_I')_2N-CO$ -group (wherein R_I' represents a hydrogen atom or a C1-C4 alkyl group), or a RB -group (wherein B represents an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom, and R represents a C1-C4 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom), X_{III}'' represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a C1-C4 alkyl group, or a C1-C4 alkoxy group, m represents 1 or 2, when m is 2, X_{III}'' 's may be different, and r_{II} and r_{II}' are the same or different, and represent a hydrogen atom or a C1-C4alkyl ~~group~~ group.]

19. (Withdrawn) A I type collagen gene transcription suppressing composition, which comprises a 2(1H)-quinolinone compound represented by the formula (XIX):



[wherein

I. A represents a benzene ring or a pyridine ring;

II. In $(Y_f)_q$, Y_f is a substituent on a carbon atom, and represents a group of the following X group or Y group, q represents 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, when q is 2 or more, Y_f 's are the same or different and,

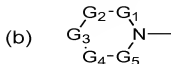
when q is 2 or more, the adjacent two same or different Y_i's constitute a group of a Z group, and may be fused with an A ring;

(1) a X group:

a M_a-group [M_a represents a R_b-group (R_b represents a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom), a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxyl group, a R_c-B_a-R_d-group (R_c represents a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, B_a represents an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group, and R_d represents a single bond or a C1-C10 alkylene group), a HOR_d-group (R_d is as defined above), a R_c-CO-R_d-group (R_c represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, and R_d is as defined above), a R_c-CO-O-R_d-group (R_c and R_d are as defined above), a R_cO-CO-R_d-group (R_c and R_d are as defined above), a HO-CO-CH=CH-group, a R_cR_e'N-R_d-group (R_c and R_e' are the same or different, R_c is as defined above, R_e' has the same meaning as that of R_c, and R_d is as defined above), a R_c-CO-NR_e'-R_d-group (R_c, R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a R_bO-CO-N(R_c)-R_d-group (R_b, R_c and R_d are as defined above), a R_cR_e'N-CO-R_d-group (R_c, R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a R_cR_e'N-CO-NR_e'-R_d-group (R_c, R_e' and R_e' are the same or different, R_c and R_e' are as defined above, R_e' has the same meaning as that of R_c, and R_d is as defined above), a R_cR_e'N-C(=NR_e'')-NR_e'-R_d-group (R_c, R_e', R_e' and R_e' are the same or different, R_c, R_e' and R_e' are as defined above, R_e' has the same meaning as that of R_c, and R_d is as defined above), a R_b-SO₂-NR_e-R_d-group (R_b, R_c and R_d are as defined above), a R_cR_e'N-SO₂-R_d-group (R_c, R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a C2-C10 alkenyl group or a C2-C10 alkynyl group];

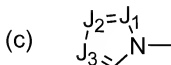
(2) a Y group:

a M_b-R_d-group [M_b represents a M_c-group {M_c represents a M_d-R_d'-group {M_d represents a phenyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or a pyridyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or a naphthyl group optionally substituted with a M_a-group (M_a is as defined above), or

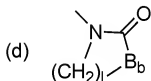


a (b)-group {in (b), G₁, G₂, G₄ and G₅ represent a methylene group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a single bond, and may be substituted with a methyl group, or a methine group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a double bond, and may be substituted with a

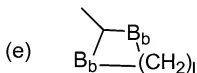
methyl group, and G_3 represents a single bond, or a double bond, or a C1-C10 alkylene group optionally substituted with a methyl group, an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a sulfonyl group or a $-NR_1$ -group (R_1 represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group, or a C2-C10 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom or a R_2-B_1 -group (R_2 represents a C1-C10 alkyl group, a C3-C10 alkenyl group or a C3-C10 alkynyl group, and B_1 represents an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group), or a C3-C10 alkenyl group, or a C3-C10 alkynyl group}, or a C2-C10 alkenylene group optionally substituted with a methyl group, an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a sulfonyl group or a $-NR_1$ -group (R_1 is as defined above)),



a (c)-group (in (c), J_1 , J_2 and J_3 are the same or different, and represent a methine group optionally substituted with a methyl group, or a nitrogen atom),



a (d)-group (l is 2, 3 or 4, and B_b represents an oxy group or a thio group)
 or



an (e)-group (l and B_b are as defined above), R_d' is the same as or different from R_d , and has the same meaning as that of R_d }, a M_c-B_a -group (M_c and B_a are as defined above), a M_c-CO -group (M_c is as defined above), a M_c-CO-O -group (M_c is as defined above), a M_cO-CO -group (M_c is as defined above), a M_cR_eN -group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a $M_c-CO-NR_e$ -group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a $M_cO-CO-NR_e$ -group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-CO -group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a $M_cR_eN-CO-NR_e'$ -group (M_c , R_e and R_e' are as defined above), a $M_cR_eN-C(=NR_e')-NR_e''$ -group (M_c , R_e , R_e' and R_e'' are as defined above), a $M_c-SO_2-NR_e$ -group (M_c and R_e are as defined above) or a $M_cR_eN-SO_2$ -group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), and R_d is as defined above];

(3) a Z group:

a $\text{-N=C(Y}_a\text{)-Y}_a\text{'}$ -group (Y_a represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, and $\text{Y}_a\text{'}$ represents an oxy group, or a thio group, or an imino group optionally substituted with a C1-C10 alkyl group), a $\text{-Y}_b\text{-Y}_b\text{'}$ - $\text{Y}_b\text{'}$ -group (Y_b and $\text{Y}_b\text{'}$ are the same or different, and represent a methylene group, or an oxy group, or a thio group, or a sulfinyl group, or an imino group optionally substituted with a C1-C10 alkyl group, and $\text{Y}_b\text{'}$ represents a C1-C4 alkylene group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C1-C4 alkylene group optionally having an oxo group) or a $\text{-Y}_c\text{-O-Y}_c\text{'}$ -O-group (Y_c and $\text{Y}_c\text{'}$ are the same or different, and represent a C1-C10 alkylene group);

III. Q_A represents a hydroxy group, a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above), an $\text{A}_9\text{-B}_6\text{-B}_c$ -group [A_9 represents a substituent of the following A_7 group or A_8 group, B_6 represents a carbonyl group or a thiocarbonyl group, and B_c represents an oxy group or a $\text{-N}((\text{O})_m\text{R}_1)$ -group (m represents 0 or 1, and R_1 is as defined above), provided that when A_9 is a hydrogen atom, then B_c is not a sulfonyl group], an $\text{A}_7\text{'-SO}_2\text{-B}_c$ -group ($\text{A}_7\text{'}$ represents a substituent of the following $\text{A}_7\text{'}$ group, and B_c is as defined above), an $\text{A}_8\text{-SO}_2\text{-B}_c$ -group (A_8 represents a substituent of the following A_8 group, and B_c is as defined above, provided that A_8 is not a hydrogen atom), a $\text{R}_1\text{R}_1\text{'-N-SO}_2\text{-B}_c$ -group (R_1 is as defined above, $\text{R}_1\text{'}$ is the same as or different from R_1 , and has the same meaning as that of R_1 , and B_c is as defined above), a (b)- $\text{SO}_2\text{-B}_c$ -group ((b) and B_c are as defined above), an $\text{A}_9\text{'-B}_c$ -group ($\text{A}_9\text{'}$ represents a substituent of the following $\text{A}_7\text{'}$ group or $\text{A}_8\text{'}$ group, and B_c is as defined above), a $\text{D}_5\text{-R}_4\text{-B}_c$ -group (D_5 represents a substituent of the following D_5 group, R_4 represents a C1-C10 alkylene group, and B_c is as defined above), a $\text{M}_c\text{-B}_3\text{-B}_c$ -group (B_3 represents a carbonyl group, a thiocarbonyl group or a sulfonyl group, and M_c and B_c are as defined above) or a $\text{M}_c\text{-B}_c$ -group (M_c and B_c are as defined above);

(1) an A_7 group:

a C2-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C2-C10 alkynyl group, a C3-C10 haloalkynyl group, a $\text{R}_2\text{-B}_1\text{-R}_4$ -group (R_2 and B_1 are as defined above, and R_4 is as defined above), a $\text{D}_4\text{-R}_4$ -group (D_4 represents a substituent of the following D_4 group, and R_4 is as defined above), a $\text{D}_5\text{-R}_4$ -group (D_5 represents a substituent of the following D_5 group, and R_4 is as defined above), a $\text{D}_1\text{-R}_4$ -group (D_1 represents a substituent of the following D_1 group, and R_4 is as defined above), a (b)- R_4 -group ((b) is as defined above, and R_4 is as defined above), a (c)- R_4 -group ((c) is as defined above, and R_4 is as defined above), a $\text{D}_2\text{-R}_4$ -group (D_2 represents a substituent of the following D_2 group, and R_4 is as defined above), a $\text{D}_3\text{-R}_4$ -group (D_3 represents a substituent of the following D_3 group, and R_4 is as defined above), an $\text{A}_4\text{-SO}_2\text{-}$

R₄-group {A₄ represents a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above), a (c)-group ((c) is as defined above) or a R₁R₁'-N-group (R₁ and R₁' are as defined above), and R₄ is as defined above} or an A₂-CO-R₄-group (A₂ represents a substituent of the following A₂ group, and R₄ is as defined above);

(2) an A₈ group: a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom;

(3) an A₇' group: a C3-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a R₂-B₁-R₄'-group (R₂ and B₁ are as defined above, and R₄' represents a C2-C10 alkylene group), a D₄-R₄'-group (D₄ and R₄' are as defined above), a D₁-R₄'-group (D₁ and R₄' are as defined above), a (b)-R₄'-group ((b) and R₄' are as defined above), a (c)-R₄'-group ((c) and R₄' are as defined above), a D₂-R₄-group (D₂ and R₄ are as defined above), a D₃-R₄'-group (D₃ and R₄' are as defined above) or an A₂-CO-R₄-group (A₂ and R₄ are as defined above);

(4) an A₈' group: a C1-C10 alkyl group or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group;

(5) an A₇'' group: a C2-C10 alkenyl group, a C3-C10 alkenyl group substituted with a halogen atom, a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a R₂-B₁-R₄'-group (R₂, B₁ and R₄' are as defined above), a D₄-R₄'-group (D₄ and R₄' are as defined above), a D₅-R₄-group (D₅ and R₄ are as defined above), a D₁-R₄'-group (D₁ and R₄' are as defined above), a (b)-R₄'-group ((b) and R₄' are as defined above), a (c)-R₄'-group ((c) and R₄' are as defined above), a D₂-R₄-group (D₂ and R₄ are as defined above), a NO₂-R₄-group (R₄ is as defined above) or an A₂-CO-R₄-group (A₂ and R₄ are as defined above);

(i) a D₄ group: a hydroxy group or an A₁-O-group [A₁ represents a R₃-(CHR₀)_m-(B₂-B₃)_m'-group {R₃ represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a R₂-B₁-group (R₂ and B₁ are as defined above), or a C2-C10 alkenyl group, or a C2-C10 alkynyl group, R₀ represents a hydrogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group, m is as defined above, B₂ represents a single bond, an oxy group, a thio group or a -N((O)_nR₁')-group (R₁' is as defined above, and n represents 0 or 1), B₃ is as defined above, m' represents 0 or 1 and, when B₃ is a sulfonyl group, then m is 0, and R₃ is not a hydrogen atom}];

(ii) a D₅ group: an O=C(R₃)-group (R₃ is as defined above), an A₁-(O)_n-N=C(R₃)-group (A₁, n and R₃ are as defined above), a R₁-B₀-CO-R₄-(O)_n-N=C(R₃)-group [R₁, R₄, n and R₃ are as defined above, and B₀ represents an oxy group, a thio group or a -N((O)_mR₁')-group (R₁' and m

are as defined above)], a $D_2-R_4-(O)_n-N=C(R_3)$ -group (D_2 , R_4 , n and R_3 are as defined above) or a $R_1A_1N-N=C(R_3)$ -group (R_1 , A_1 and R_3 are as defined above);

(iii) a D_1 group: a $(R_1-(O)_k-A_1N-(O)_k')$ -group (R_1 and A_1 are as defined above, and k and k' are the same or different, and represent 0 or 1);

(iv) a D_2 group: a cyano group, a $R_1R_1'NC(=N-(O)_n-A_1)$ -group (R_1 , R_1' , n and A_1 are as defined above), an $A_1N=C(-OR_2)$ -group (A_1 and R_2 are as defined above) or a NH_2-CS -group;

(v) a D_3 group: a nitro group or a R_1OSO_2 -group (R_1 is as defined above);

(vi) an A_2 group:

1) an A_3-B_4 -group

[A_3 represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group, or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group, or a C2-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a $R_a-(R_4)_m$ -group (R_a represents a phenyl group, a pyridyl group, a furyl group or a thienyl group, optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group, a C1-C10 alkoxy group or a nitro group, and R_4 and m are as defined above), or a C1-C10 alkyl group substituted with a (b)- R_4 -group ((b) and R_4 are as defined above), a (c)- R_4 -group ((c) and R_4 are as defined above), a $R_2-B_1-R_4$ -group (R_2 , B_1 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_4-R_4 -group (D_4 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_5 -group (D_5 is as defined above), a D_1-R_4 -group (D_1 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_2 -group (D_2 is as defined above), a D_3-R_4 -group (D_3 and R_4 are as defined above) or an $A_4-SO_2-R_4$ -group (A_4 is as defined above, and R_4 is as defined above),

B_4 represents an oxy group, a thio group or a $-N((O)_mR_1)$ -group (R_1 and m are as defined above), provided that when B_4 is a thio group, then A_3 is not a hydrogen atom];

2) a $R_1-B_4-CO-R_4-B_4'$ -group (R_1 , B_4 and R_4 are as defined above, B_4' is the same as or different from B_4 , and has the same meaning as that of B_4 , provided that when B_4 is a thio group, then R_2 is not a hydrogen atom) or a $D_2-R_4-B_4$ -group (D_2 , R_4 and B_4 are as defined above);

3) a $R_2-SO_2-NR_1$ -group (R_2 is as defined above, provided that a hydrogen atom is excluded, and R_1 is as defined above);

4) a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above);

5) a (c)-group ((c) is as defined above) or

6) a $R_1A_1N-NR_1'$ -group (R_1 , A_1 and R_1' are as defined above);

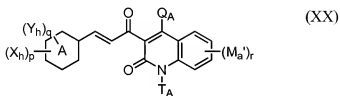
IV. T_A represents a hydrogen atom, an A_9' -group (A_9' is as defined above), a D_5-R_4 -group (D_5 and R_4 are as defined above) or a M_c -group (M_c is as defined above);

V. M_a' is the same as or different from M_a , and has the same meaning as that of M_a , and r represents 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4; and

the "as defined above" in the same symbol between a plurality of substituents indicates that the plurality of substituents independently represent the same meaning as that described above and, between the plurality of substituents, a selection range of selected substituents is the same, while the selected substituents may be the same or different as far as they are selected in the range];

and an inert carrier;

20. (Withdrawn) A 2(1H)-pyridinone compound represented by the formula (XX):



[wherein

I. A represents a benzene ring or a pyridine ring;

II. In $(X_h)_p$, X_h represents a hydroxy group, a halogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group, a C1-C10 alkoxy carbonyl group, a $(R')_2N$ -group (R' represents a C1-C10 alkyl group), a nitro group or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, p represents 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 and, when p is 2 or more, X_h 's are the same or different, provided that when p is 2 or more, and in case that X_h is selected from a hydroxy group, a halogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group and a C1-C10 alkoxy group, then X_h 's do not represent the same group or atom at the same time;

III. In $(Y_h)_q$, Y_h is a substituent on a carbon atom, and represents a substituent of the following X_7 group or Y_7 group, q represents 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, when q is 2 or more, Y_h 's are the same or different and, when q is 2 or more, the adjacent two same or different Y_h 's constitute a group of a Z_7 group, and may be fused with an A ring;

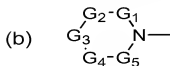
(1) a X_7 group:

a M_a -group [M_a represents a R_b -group (R_b represents a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom), a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, a R_c - B_a - R_d -group (R_c represents a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, B_a

represents an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group, and R_d represents a single bond or a C1-C10 alkylene group), a HOR_d -group (R_d is as defined above), a R_e -CO- R_d -group (R_e represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, and R_d is as defined above), a R_e -CO-O- R_d -group (R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_e -CO- R_d -group (R_e and R_d are as defined above), a HO-CO-CH=CH-group, a R_eR_e' -N- R_d -group (R_e and R_e' are the same or different, R_e is as defined above, R_e' has the same meaning as that of R_e , and R_d is as defined above), a R_e -CO-NR $_e'$ - R_d -group (R_e , R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a R_b O-CO-N(R_e)- R_d -group (R_b , R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_eR_e' -N-CO- R_d -group (R_e , R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a R_eR_e'' -N-CO-NR $_e''$ - R_d -group (R_e , R_e' and R_e'' are the same or different, R_e and R_e' are as defined above, R_e'' has the same meaning as that of R_e , and R_d is as defined above), a R_eR_e'' -N-C(=NR $_e''$)-NR $_e'''$ - R_d -group (R_e , R_e' , R_e'' and R_e''' are the same or different, R_e , R_e' and R_e'' are as defined above, R_e''' has the same meaning as that of R_e , and R_d is as defined above), a R_b -SO $_2$ -NR $_e$ - R_d -group (R_b , R_e and R_d are as defined above), a R_eR_e' -N-SO $_2$ - R_d -group (R_e , R_e' and R_d are as defined above), a C2-C10 alkenyl group or a C2-C10 alkynyl group], provided that when A represents a benzene ring, then a X_h -group (X_h is as defined above) is excluded;

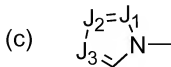
(2) a Y_7 group:

a M_b - R_d -group [M_b represents a M_c -group (M_c represents a M_d - R_d' -group (M_d represents a phenyl group optionally substituted with a M_a -group (M_a is as defined above), or a pyridyl group optionally substituted with a M_a -group (M_a is as defined above), or a naphthyl group optionally substituted with a M_a -group (M_a is as defined above), or

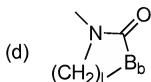


a (b)-group {in (b), G_1 , G_2 , G_4 and G_5 represent a methylene group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a single bond, and may be substituted with a methyl group, or a methine group which is connected to an adjacent atom with a double bond, and may be substituted with a methyl group, and G_3 represents a single bond, or a double bond, or a C1-C10 alkylene group optionally substituted with a methyl group, an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a sulfonyl group or a -NR $_1$ -group (R_1 represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group, or a C2-C10 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom or a R_2 -B $_1$ -group (R_2 represents a C1-C10 alkyl group, a C3-C10 alkenyl group or a C3-C10 alkynyl group, and B $_1$ represents an oxy

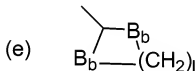
group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group or a sulfonyl group), or a C3-C10 alkenyl group, or a C3-C10 alkynyl group}, or a C2-C10 alkenylene group optionally substituted with a methyl group, an oxy group, a thio group, a sulfinyl group, a sulfonyl group or a -NR₁-group (R₁ is as defined above)},



a (c)-group (in (c), J₁, J₂ and J₃ are the same or different, and represent a methine group optionally substituted with a methyl group, or a nitrogen atom),



a (d)-group (l is 2, 3 or 4, and B_b represents an oxy group or a thio group)
 or



an (e)-group (l and B_b are as defined above), R_d' is the same as or different from R_d, and has the same meaning as that of R_d}, a M_c-B_a-group (M_c and B_a are as defined above), a M_c-CO-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_c-CO-O-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_cO-CO-group (M_c is as defined above), a M_cR_eN-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_c-CO-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cO-CO-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-CO-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-CO-NR_e'-group (M_c, R_e and R_e' are as defined above), a M_cR_eN-C(=NR_e')-NR_e'-group (M_c, R_e, R_e' and R_e' are as defined above), a M_c-SO₂-NR_e-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above) or a M_cR_eN-SO₂-group (M_c and R_e are as defined above), and R_d is as defined above];

(3) a Z₇ group:

a -N=C(Y_a)-Y_a'-group (Y_a represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkoxy group, and Y_a' represents an oxy group, or a thio group, or an imino group optionally substituted with a C1-C10 alkyl group), a -Y_b-Y_b'-Y_b'-group (Y_b and Y_b' are the same or different, and represent a methylene group, or an oxy group, or a thio group, or a sulfinyl group, or an imino group optionally substituted with a C1-

C10 alkyl group, and Y_b' represents a C1-C4 alkylene group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a C1-C4 alkylene group optionally having an oxo group) or a $-Y_c-O-Y_c'-O-$ group (Y_c and Y_c' are the same or different, or a C1-C10 alkylene group), provided that when p is 0, then Y_h does not fused with an A ring to form a benzo[1,3]dioxol ring;

IV. Q_A represents a hydroxy group, a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above), an $A_9-B_6-B_c$ -group [A_9 represents a substituent of the following A_7 group or A_8 group, B_6 represents a carbonyl group or a thiocarbonyl group, and B_c represents an oxy group or a $-N((O)_mR_1$ -group (m represents 0 or 1, and R_1 is as defined above), provided that when A_9 is a hydrogen atom, then B_c is not a sulfonyl group], an $A_7''-SO_2-B_c$ -group (A_7'' represents a substituent of the following A_7'' group, and B_c is as defined above), an $A_8-SO_2-B_c$ -group (A_8 represents a substituent of the following A_8 group, and B_c is as defined above, provided that A_8 is not a hydrogen atom), a $R_1R_1'-N-SO_2-B_c$ -group (R_1 is as defined above, R_1' is the same as or different from R_1 , and has the same meaning as that of R_1 , and B_c is as defined above), a (b)- SO_2-B_c -group ((b) and B_c are as defined above), an $A_9'-B_c$ -group (A_9' represents a substituent of the following A_7' group or A_8' group, and B_c is as defined above), a $D_5-R_4-B_c$ -group (D_5 represents a substituent of the following D_5 group, R_4 represents a C1-C10 alkylene group, and B_c is as defined above), a $M_c-B_3-B_c$ -group (B_3 represents a carbonyl group, a thiocarbonyl group or a sulfonyl group, and M_c and B_c are as defined above) or a M_c-B_c -group (M_c and B_c are as defined above);

(1) an A_7 group:

a C2-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C2-C10 alkynyl group, a C3-C10 haloalkynyl group, a $R_2-B_1-R_4$ -group (R_2 and B_1 are as defined above, and R_4 is as defined above), a D_4-R_4 -group (D_4 represents a substituent of the following D_4 group, and R_4 is as defined above), a D_5-R_4 -group (D_5 represents a substituent of the following D_5 group, and R_4 is as defined above), a D_1-R_4 -group (D_1 represents a substituent of the following D_1 group, and R_4 is as defined above), a (b)- R_4 -group ((b) is as defined above, and R_4 is as defined above), a (c)- R_4 -group ((c) is as defined above, and R_4 is as defined above), a D_2-R_4 -group (D_2 represents a substituent of the following D_2 group, and R_4 is as defined above), a D_3-R_4 -group (D_3 represents a substituent of the following D_3 group, and R_4 is as defined above), an $A_4-SO_2-R_4$ -group (A_4 represents a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above), a (c)-group ((c) is as defined above) or a $R_1R_1'-N$ -group (R_1 and R_1' are as defined above), and R_4 is as defined above} or an $A_2-CO_2-R_4$ -group (A_2 represents a substituent of the following A_2 group, and R_4 is as defined above);

- (2) an A_8 group: a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom;
- (3) an A_7' group: a C3-C10 alkenyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a R_2 - B_1 - R_4' -group (R_2 and B_1 are as defined above, and R_4' represents a C2-C10 alkylene group), a D_4 - R_4' -group (D_4 and R_4' are as defined above), a D_1 - R_4' -group (D_1 and R_4' are as defined above), a (b)- R_4' -group ((b) and R_4' are as defined above), a (c)- R_4' -group ((c) and R_4' are as defined above), a D_2 - R_4 -group (D_2 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_3 - R_4' -group (D_3 and R_4' are as defined above) or an A_2 -CO- R_4 -group (A_2 and R_4 are as defined above);
- (4) an A_8' group: a C1-C10 alkyl group or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group;
- (5) an A_7'' group: a C2-C10 alkenyl group, a C3-C10 alkenyl group substituted with a halogen atom, a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a R_2 - B_1 - R_4' -group (R_2 , B_1 and R_4' are as defined above), a D_4 - R_4' -group (D_4 and R_4' are as defined above), a D_5 - R_4 -group (D_5 and R_4 are as defined above), a D_1 - R_4' -group (D_1 and R_4' are as defined above), a (b)- R_4' -group ((b) and R_4' are as defined above), a (c)- R_4' -group ((c) and R_4' are as defined above), a D_2 - R_4 -group (D_2 and R_4 are as defined above), a NO_2 - R_4 -group (R_4 is as defined above) or an A_2 -CO- R_4 -group (A_2 and R_4 are as defined above);
- (i) a D_4 group: a hydroxy group or an A_1 -O-group [A_1 represents a R_3 -(CHR₀)_m-(B₂-B₃)_{m'}-group { R_3 represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a R_2 - B_1 -group (R_2 and B_1 are as defined above), or a C2-C10 alkenyl group, or a C2-C10 alkynyl group, R_0 represents a hydrogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group, m is as defined above, B_2 represents a single bond, an oxy group, a thio group or a -N((O)_nR₁')-group (R_1' is as defined above, and n represents 0 or 1), B_3 is as defined above, m' represents 0 or 1 and, when B_3 is a sulfonyl group, then m is 0, and R_3 is not a hydrogen atom}];
- (ii) a D_5 group: an O=C(R_3)-group (R_3 is as defined above), an A_1 -(O)_n-N=C(R_3)-group (A_1 , N and R_3 are as defined above), a R_1 -B₀-CO- R_4 -(O)_n-N=C(R_3)-group [R_1 , R_4 , n and R_3 are as defined above, and B_0 represents an oxy group, a thio group or a -N((O)_mR₁')-group (R_1' and m are as defined above)], a D_2 - R_4 -(O)_n-N=C(R_3)-group (D_2 , R_4 , n and R_3 are as defined above) or a R_1A_1N -N=C(R_3)-group (R_1 , A_1 and R_3 are as defined above);
- (iii) a D_1 group: a (R₁-O)_k-(A₁N-(O)_{k'})-group (R_1 and A_1 are as defined above, and k and k' are the same or different, and represent 0 or 1);

(iv) a D₂ group: a cyano group, a R₁R₁'NC(=N)-(O)_n-A₁-group (R₁, R₁', N and A₁ are as defined above), an A₁N=C(-OR₂)-group (A₁ and R₂ are as defined above) or a NH₂-CS-group;

(v) a D₃ group: a nitro group or a R₁OSO₂-group (R₁ is as defined above);

(vi) an A₂ group:

1) an A₃-B₄-group

[A₃ represents a hydrogen atom, or a C1-C10 alkyl group, or a C2-C10 haloalkyl group, or a C2-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a C3-C10 alkynyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom, or a R_a-(R₄)_m-group (R_a represents a phenyl group, a pyridyl group, a furyl group or a thienyl group, optionally substituted with a halogen atom, a C1-C10 alkyl group, a C1-C10 alkoxy group or a nitro group, and R₄ and m are as defined above), or a C1-C10 alkyl group substituted with a (b)-R₄-group ((b) and R₄ are as defined above), a (c)-R₄-group ((c) and R₄ are as defined above), a R₂-B₁-R₄-group (R₂, B₁ and R₄ are as defined above), a D₄-R₄-group (D₄ and R₄ are as defined above), a D₅-group (D₅ is as defined above), a D₁-R₄-group (D₁ and R₄ are as defined above), a D₂-group (D₂ is as defined above), a D₃-R₄-group (D₃ and R₄ are as defined above) or an A₄-SO₂-R₄-group {A₄ is as defined above, and R₄ is as defined above},

B₄ represents an oxy group, a thio group or a -N((O)_mR₁)-group (R₁ and m are as defined above), provide that when A₄ is a thio group, then A₃ is not a hydrogen atom];

2) a R₁-B₄-CO-R₄-B₄'-group (R₁, B₄ and R₄ are as defined above, B₄' is the same as or different from B₄, and has the same meaning as B₄, provided that when B₄ is a thio group, then R₂ is not a hydrogen atom) or a D₂-R₄-B₄-group (D₂, R₄ and B₄ are as defined above);

3) a R₂-SO₂-NR₁-group (R₂ is as defined above, provided that a hydrogen atom is excluded, and R₁ is as defined above);

4) a (b)-group ((b) is as defined above);

5) a (c)-group ((c) is as defined above) or

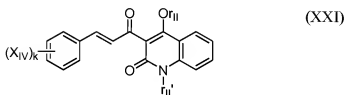
6) a R₁A₁N-NR₁'-group (R₁, A₁ and R₁' are as defined above);

V. T_A represents a hydrogen atom, an A₉'-group (A₉' is as defined above), a D₅-R₄-group (D₅ and R₄ are as defined above) or a M_c-group (M_c is as defined above);

VI. M_a' is the same as or different from M_a, and has the same meaning as that of M_a, and r represents 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4, provided that when an A ring is a benzene ring, then q is not 0 and, when an A ring is a benzene ring or a pyridine ring, then p and q are not 0 at the same time, in either case; and

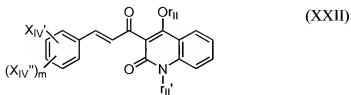
the “as defined above” in the same symbol between a plurality of substituents indicates that the plurality of substituents independently represent the same meaning as that described above and, between the plurality of substituents, a selection range of selected substituents is the same, while the selected substituents may be the same or different as far as they are selected in the range];

21. (Withdrawn) A I type collagen gene transcription suppressing composition, which comprises a 2(1H)-quinolinone compound represented by the formula (XXI):



[wherein X_{IV} represents a hydrogen atom, or a hydroxy group, or a halogen atom, or a C1-C4 alkyl group optionally substituted with a halogen atom or a C1-C4 alkoxy group, or a C2-C4 alkenyl group, or a C2-C4 alkynyl group, or a C1-C4 alkoxy group, or a $R_I-S(O)_l$ -group (R_I represents a C1-C4 alkyl group, and l represents an integer of 0 to 2), or a nitro group, or a cyano group, or a carboxy group, or a C1-C4 alkoxy carbonyl group, or a $(R_I)_2N$ -group (R_I is as defined above), or a $R_I-CO-NH$ -group (R_I is as defined above), or a $R_I-O-CO-NH$ -group (R_I is as defined above), or a $R_I-NH-CO-NH$ -group (R_I is as defined above), or a $(R_I')_2N-CO$ -group (R_I' represents a hydrogen atom or a C1-C4 alkyl group), or a RB -group (B represents an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom, and R represents a C1-C4 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom), k represents an integer of 1 to 4 and, when k is an integer of 2 to 4, X_{IV} 's may be different, and R_{II} and R_{II}' are the same or different, and represent a hydrogen atom or a C1-C4 alkyl group];
 and an inert carrier;

22. (Withdrawn) A 2(1H)-quinolinone compound represented by the formula (XXII):



[wherein X_{IV}' represents a C2-C4 alkyl group, or a C1-C4 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom or a C1-C4 alkoxy group, or a C2-C4 alkenyl group, or a C2-C4 alkynyl group, or a C2-C4 alkoxy group, or a $R_I-S(O)_l$ -group (R_I represents a C1-C4 alkyl group, and l represents an integer of 0 to 2), or a cyano group, or a carboxy group, or a C2-C4 alkoxy carbonyl group, or a $(R_{II})_2N$ -group (R_{II} represents a C2-C4 alkyl group), or a $R_I-CO-NH$ -group (R_I is as defined above), or a $R_I O-CO-NH$ -group (R_I is as defined above), or a $R_I NH-CO-NH$ -group (R_I is as defined above), or a $(R_I')_2N-CO$ -group (R_I' represents a hydrogen atom or a C1-C4 alkyl group), or a RB-group (B represents an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom, and R represents a C1-C4 alkyl group substituted with a halogen atom), X_{IV}'' represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a C1-C4 alkyl group or a C1-C4 alkoxy group, m represents 1 or 2 and, when m is 2, X_{IV}'' 's may be different, and r_{II} and r_{II}' are the same or different, and represent a hydrogen atom or a C1-C4alkyl group];

23-24. (Cancelled)

25. (Withdrawn) A composition for improving tissue fibrosis, which comprises a compound according to claim 5, and an inert carrier;

26. (Withdrawn) A method for improving tissue fibrosis, which comprises administering an effective amount of a compound according to claim 5 to a mammal in need thereof;

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Withdrawn) A composition for suppressing the activity of TGF- β , which comprises a compound according to claim 5, and an inert carrier;

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Withdrawn) A composition for hair growth which comprises a compound according to claim 5, and an inert carrier;

31. (Withdrawn) A method for growing hair, which comprises administering an effective amount of a compound according to claim 5 to a mammal in need thereof;

32-33. (Cancelled)

34. (Currently amended) A ~~composition-method~~ for improving tissue fibrosis, which comprises administering an effective amount of the composition a compound according to claim 17 to a mammal in need thereof, claim 1, and an inert carrier;

35. (Withdrawn) A method for improving tissue fibrosis, which comprises administering an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 to a mammal in need thereof;

36. (Cancelled)

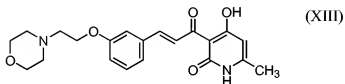
37. (Currently amended) A ~~composition-method~~ for suppressing the activity of TGF- β , which comprises administering an effective amount of the composition a compound according to claim 17 to a mammal in need thereof, claim 1, and an inert carrier;

38. (Cancelled)

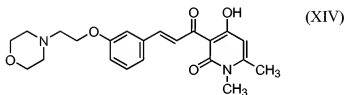
39. (Currently amended) A ~~composition-method~~ for growing hair, growth which comprises administering an effective amount of the composition a compound according to claim 17 to a mammal in need thereof, claim 1, and an inert carrier;

40. (Withdrawn) A method for growing hair, which comprises administering an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 to a mammal in need thereof;

41. (Withdrawn) A 2(1H)-pyridinone compound represented by the formula (XXIII);



42. (Withdrawn) A 2(1H)-pyridinone compound represented by the formula (XXIV);



43. (New) A method for suppressing transcription of a type I collagen gene, which comprises administering an effective amount of the composition according to claim 17 to a mammal in need thereof.